

STORY: ISUNA HASEKURA
ART: KEITO KOUME
CHARACTER DESIGN: JYUU AYAKURA

The cover art depicts a winter scene with a large, smiling girl in the foreground. She has long, flowing brown hair and wears a dark brown fur hat and a purple robe with a red drawstring pouch hanging from her neck. She is holding a small, white-haired child who is sleeping. Behind her, a young man with short white hair and a blue and tan outfit stands with a sword on his back. The background shows a snowy landscape with mountains and a body of water under a blue sky.

SPICE & WOLF

VOL. 8

PARENTAL ADVISORY
WARNING
EXPLICIT CONTENT

SPICE & WOLF

Lawrence

A merchant traveling with Holo.
Collecting information about
Holo's homeland.



Holo

Lawrence's traveling
companion, a beautiful
girl. Her true form is
that of the wolf-god
of the harvest.



Elsa

The church deaconess
of the village of Tereo,
successor to the late
Father Franz.



Evan

A young miller. Romantically
involved with Elsa.



Bishop Van

The bishop of St.
Rio's Church in the
town of Enberch.
Conspiring with the
town to control Tereo.



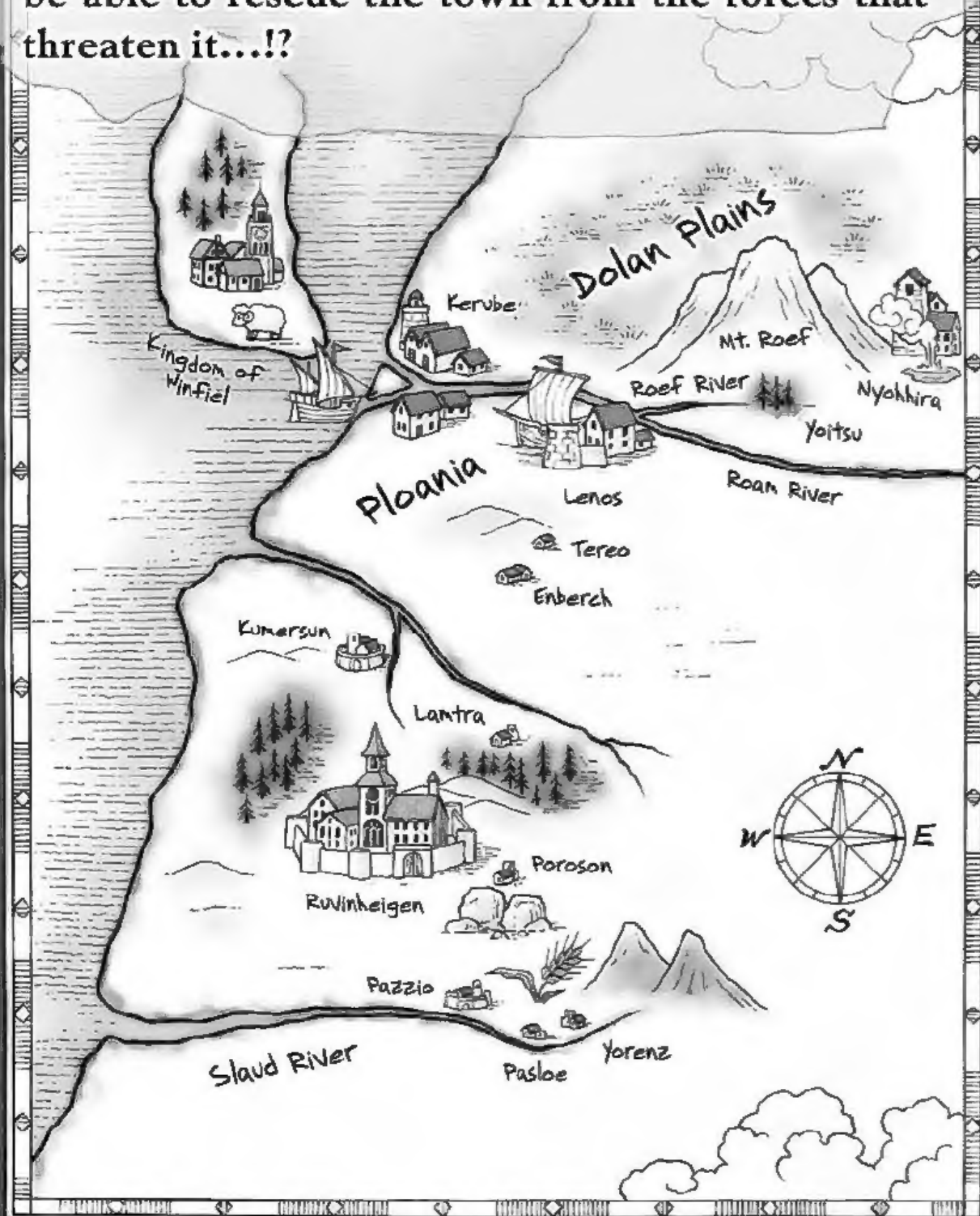
Col

A boy saved by Lawrence at the river
checkpoint. A naive but clever lad.



Introduction

Caught in the schemes of Bishop Van, the town of Tereo finds both its faith and its autonomy threatened. Made a scapegoat via the plotting, Lawrence proposes escape to Elsa and Evan. Elsa first chooses to flee but soon returns to fight for her place in her hometown. Will Lawrence be able to rescue the town from the forces that threaten it...!?



SPICE & WOLF

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SPICE & WOLF

ZUZUZU
(KRRRRRKO)

ゴコン

GOKON
(CLINK)











MY GOD,
THE GOD
WHO
CREATED
ALL.

YOUR
POWER IS
UNDOUBTEDLY
BEYOND THAT
OF ANY
HUMAN.

MISS
HOLO,
THERE
IS ONE
THING I
MUST
SAY.

BUT I STILL
BELIEVE IN
MY GOD.



AND YOU
ARE NO
GOD.





OUR
COMPANY
THUS SEEKS
THE OPINION
OF THE
ENBERCH
CHURCH.

...THE CHURCH
HAS LOST ITS
MASTER.



EVEN
IF SHE
RETURNS,
SHE CAN
HARDLY BE
CALLED THE
CHURCH'S
MASTER.



NO...WE
HAVE OUR
DEACONESS...
THOUGH
SHE IS OUT
AT THE
MOMENT.



I DON'T BELIEVE
SHE HAS THOSE
QUALIFICATIONS.



BURN
THIS.

...OUR
CHURCH
CAN YET
COME TO
YOUR
AID.

IF YOU
ACCEPT
THE
TEACHINGS
OF RIGH-
TEOUS-
NESS...



GOTO
CHUNGO







WAS
THE WEIGHT
OF YOUR SIN
TOO MUCH
FOR YOUR
CONSCIENCE
TO BEAR?



I WAS
LED TO
BELIEVE
THAT
YOU HAD
STOLEN
AWAY
IN THE
NIGHT.



ELSA,
WHY?

I'M SORRY,
MRS. IMA.



ZAWA
CHIRUMIRO

I HAVE
MET ONE OF
HIS DIVINE
MESSENGERS!

IT
IS TRUE
THAT MY
FAITH HAS,
AT TIMES,
BEEN MIS-
PLACED.

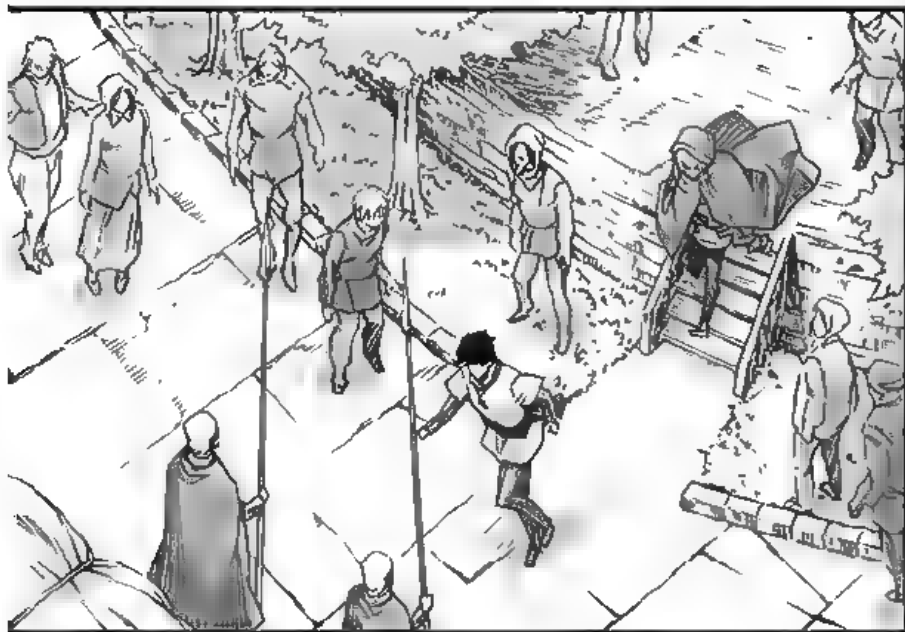
HA
(GASP)

THAT
YOU WOULD
CLAIM TO HAVE
ENCOUNTERED
A DIVINE
MESSENGER
IS PROOF
OF YOUR
HERESY!

B L A S P H E M Y !

IF I
AM WRONG,
THEN BRING
THE EVIDENCE
BEFORE ME
AT ONCE!

BUT
ALMIGHTY
GOD HAS
SHOWN ME
THE TRUE
PATH.



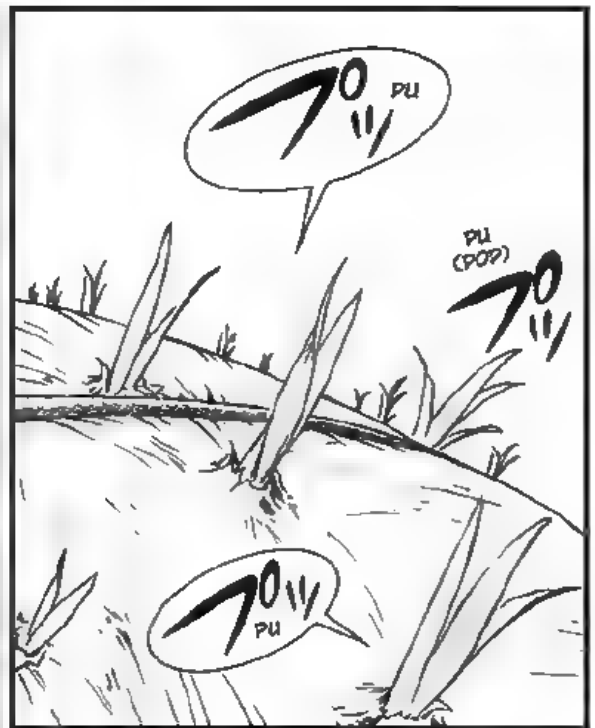
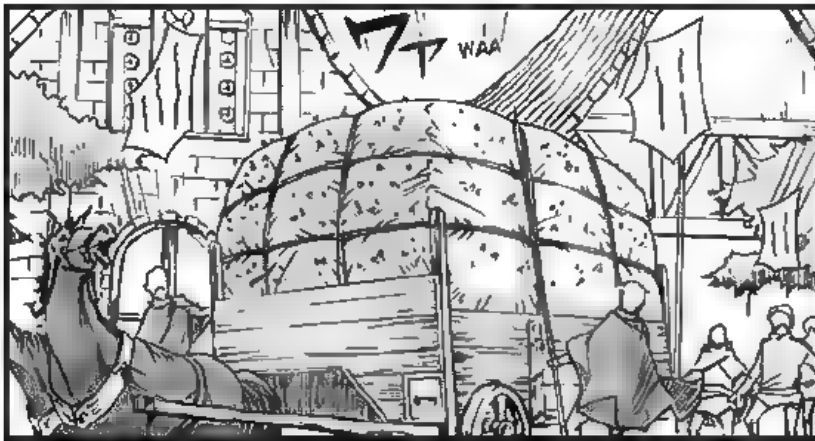






THE DIVINE
MESSENGER
HAS PROMISED
TO REVEAL
A SIGN THAT
WILL GUIDE THE
WAYWARD LAMBS
BACK TO THE
TRUE PATH.







THE
WHEAT,
IT'S
—!

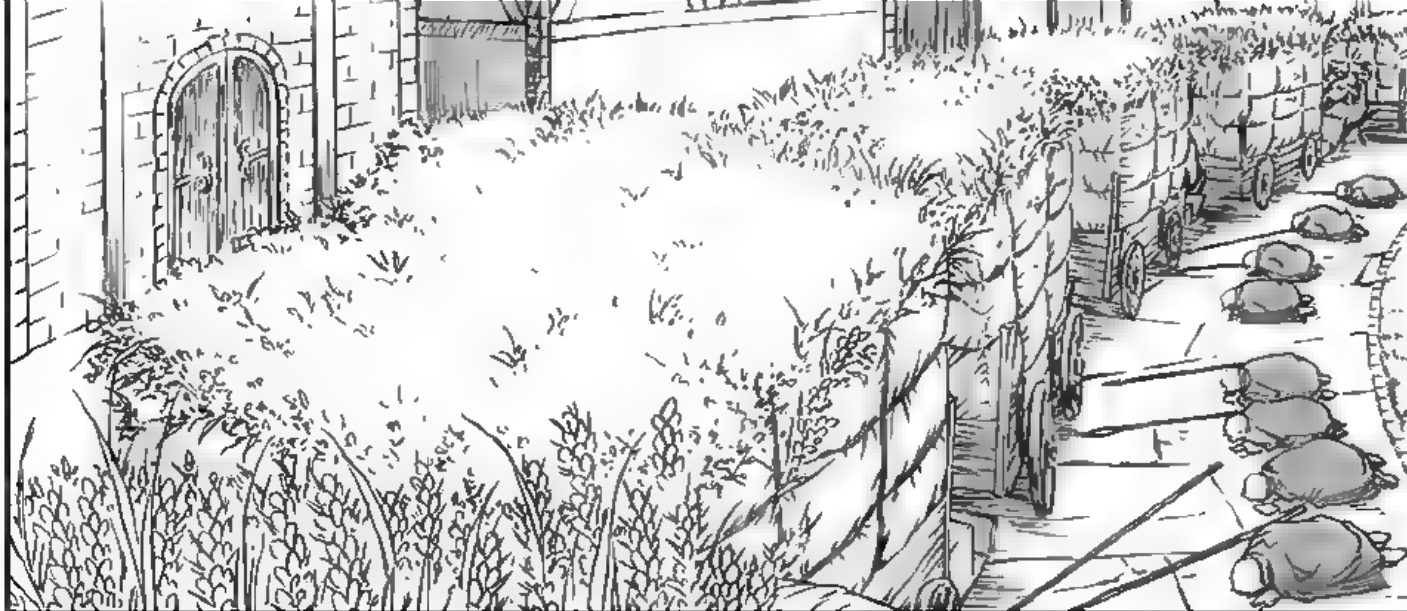
IT'S
GOD!

!?

**GOD HAS
CREATED A
MIRACLE!**

...OHH!





EVEN
MIXING
IT AMONG
GOOD WHEAT,
IT SEEMED ALL
THEY COULD
MANAGE WAS
POISONING
A SINGLE
WAGONLOAD'S
WORTH.



ACQUIRING
RIDELIUS'S
HELLFIRE WAS
VERY DIFFICULT.
NO MATTER
THE REGION,
ALL WHO SAW
THE WITHERED
WHEAT KNEW
EXACTLY WHAT
IT MEANT.

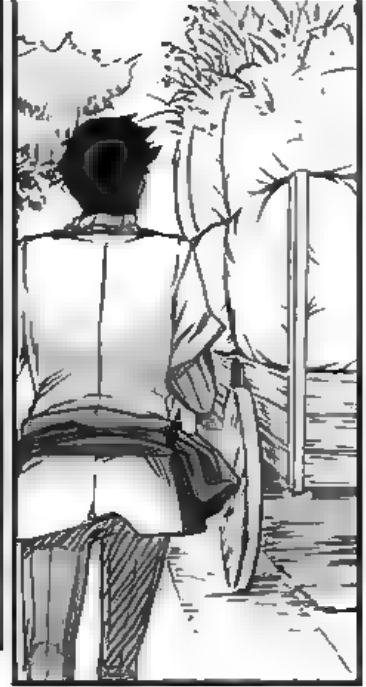
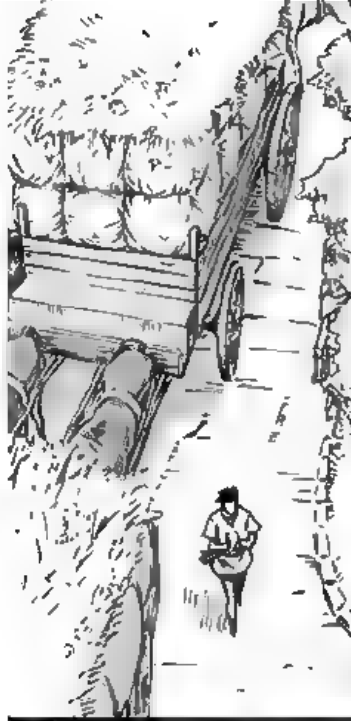


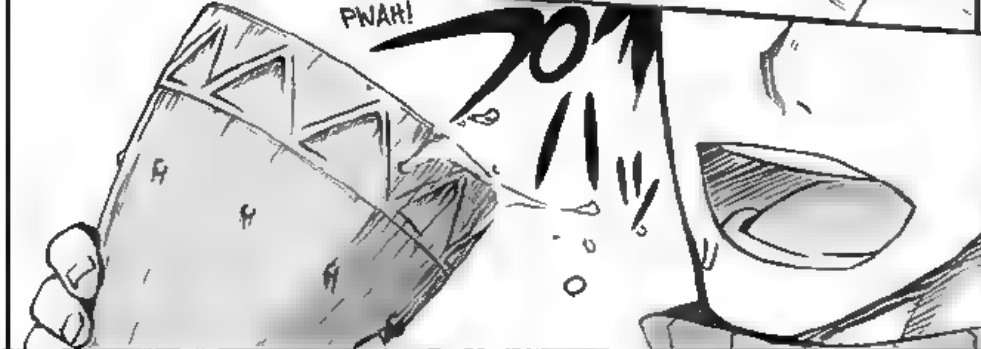




*A MEMBER OF THE CLERGY CAN BLESS AN ITEM IN THE NAME OF GOD, THIS SPECIFYING IT AS HOLY AND PURE









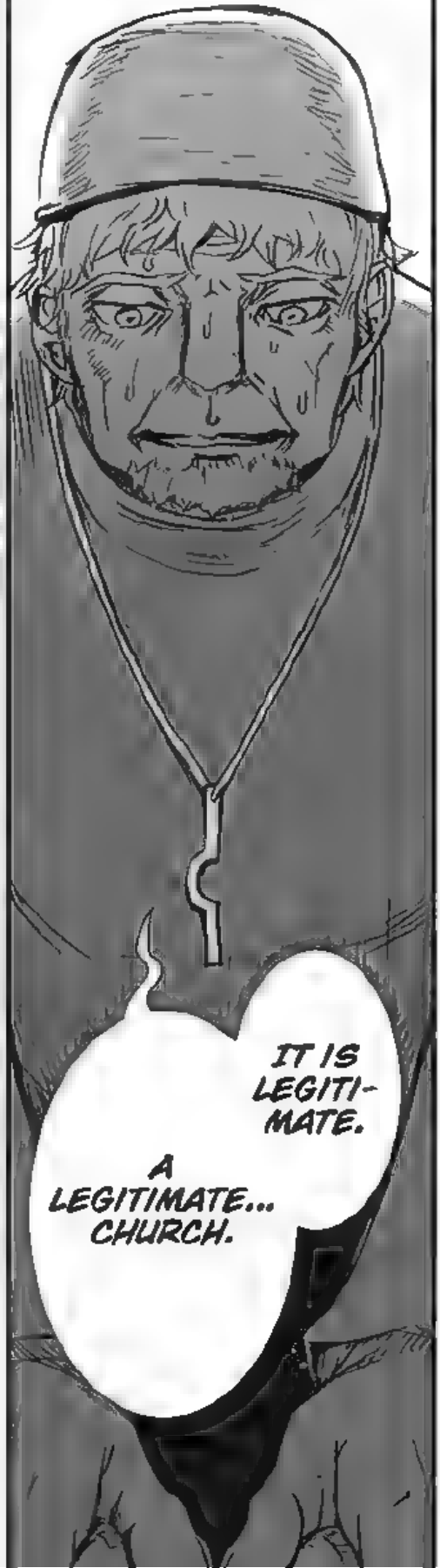




I'LL
ASK YOU
TO PUT
THAT IN
WRITING.



GUH...




IT IS
LEGITI-
MATE.

A
LEGITIMATE...
CHURCH.




SPICE & WOLF



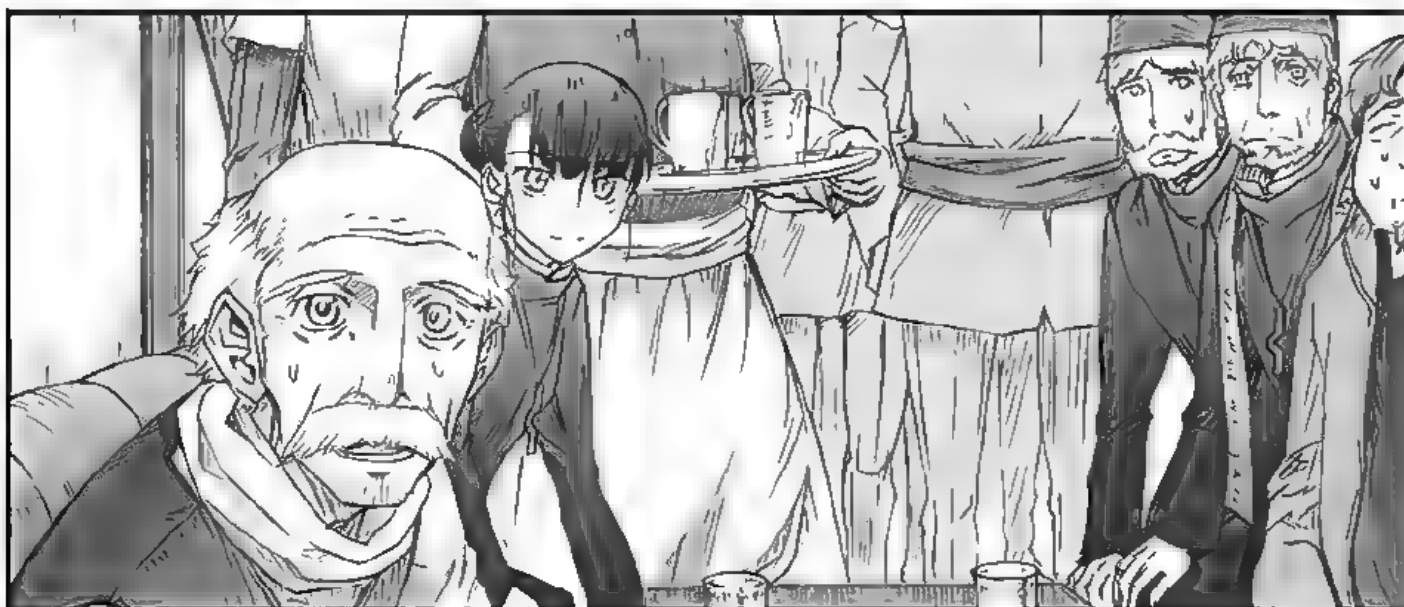
AS THE
INCIDENT CAME
TO A CLOSE,
THE QUESTION
REMAINED OF
WHAT WOULD
BE DONE WITH
THE RETURNED
WHEAT.



THE
RIENDOTT
COMPANY HAD
PAID TWO
HUNDRED
LIMAR FOR
THE WHEAT.



BUT
IT WAS
SETTLED
THAT ONLY
ONE HUNDRED
SIXTY LIMAR
WOULD BE
RETURNED.





HOW DARE YOU!

YER SUPPOSED TO PROTECT THAT!!



...THE DISSOLUTION OF YOUR REQUIREMENT TO PURCHASE TEREQ'S WHEAT, CONDUCTING ITS PURCHASE UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS AS OTHER PURCHASES.



AS FAR AS OUR TERMS OF EXCHANGE GO... WELL, YES...



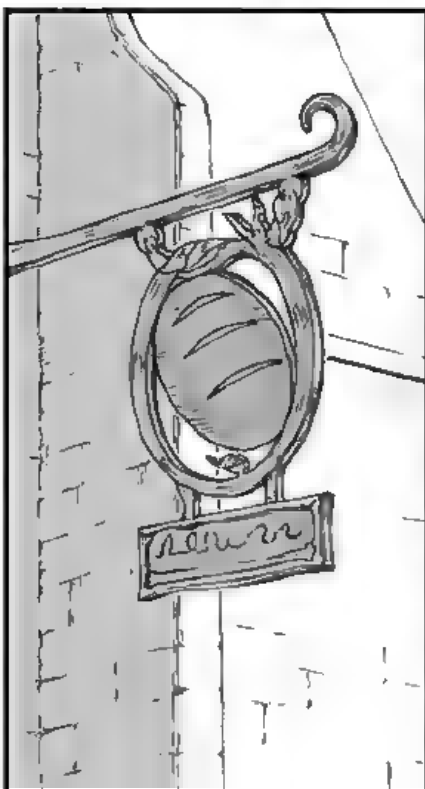
THE VILLAGE ELDER HAS PUT MR. LAWRENCE IN CHARGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS! WE WILL HEAR HIM OUT!

SILENCE!



LEFT TO STAND IN THE VILLAGE'S FAVOR, IT WILL INEVITABLY RESULT IN ANOTHER CONFLICT.

THIS WAS AN UNUSUAL ARRANGEMENT.









A SOUTHERN
TREAT, THEY
WERE BAKED
BEFORE RISING,
LIKE LEAVENED
BREAD.

STARTING
WITH FLOUR
AND WATER,
BUT ADDING
OIL, EGGS,
AND HONEY
BEFORE
BAKING
RESULTED IN
SOMETHING
SURPRISINGLY
DELICIOUS.



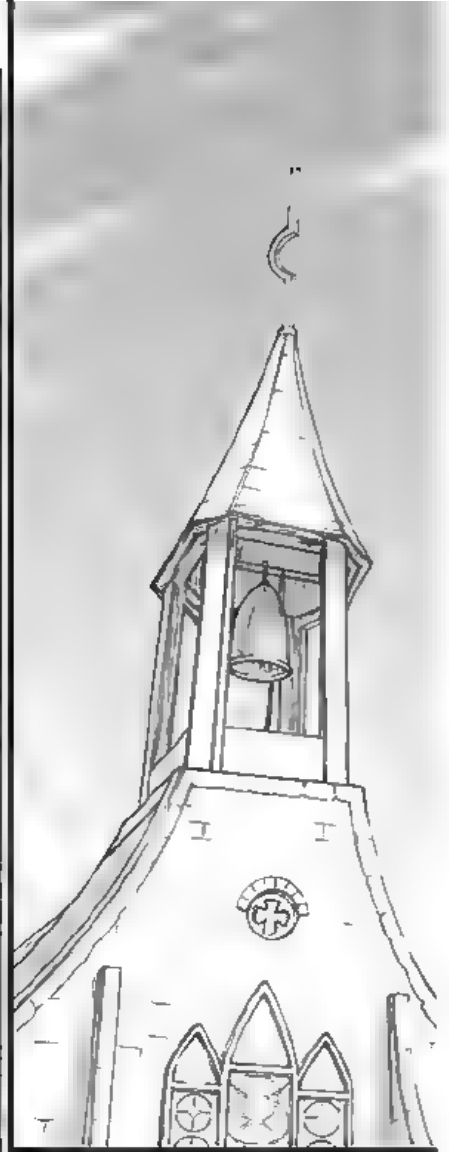
SO LONG AS
THEY HAD THE
SUPPORT OF
RIENDOTT AND
BISHOP VAN,
IT WOULD
REMAIN A
MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL
RELATION-
SHIP.

THE
TOWN
BAKERS
MIGHT
RAISE A
FUSS,
BUT THE
COOKIES
LOOKED
NOTHING
LIKE
BREAD.



AS EVAN WAS
UNFAMILIAR WITH
UNLEAVENED
BREAD, LAWRENCE
HAD SUSPECTED
THIS PROPOSAL
WOULD GO OVER
WELL.

COOKIES
WERE OFTEN
EATEN IN
THE SOUTH
BUT HAD NOT
SPREAD TO
THE NORTH
FOR SOME
REASON.





THE
COOKIES
ARE SELLING
EXTREMELY
WELL IN
ENBERCH.



I HEARD
FROM
EVAN.



THINK
NOTHING
OF IT.



I TRULY
THANK
YOU.



THANKS
TO YOU, THE
VILLAGE WILL
BE OUT OF
DANGER FOR
SOME TIME
TO COME.





FROM
NOW
ON...

...I'LL TRY
TO CONSIDER
MY OWN
SOLUTIONS.



'TIS
WELL,
THEN

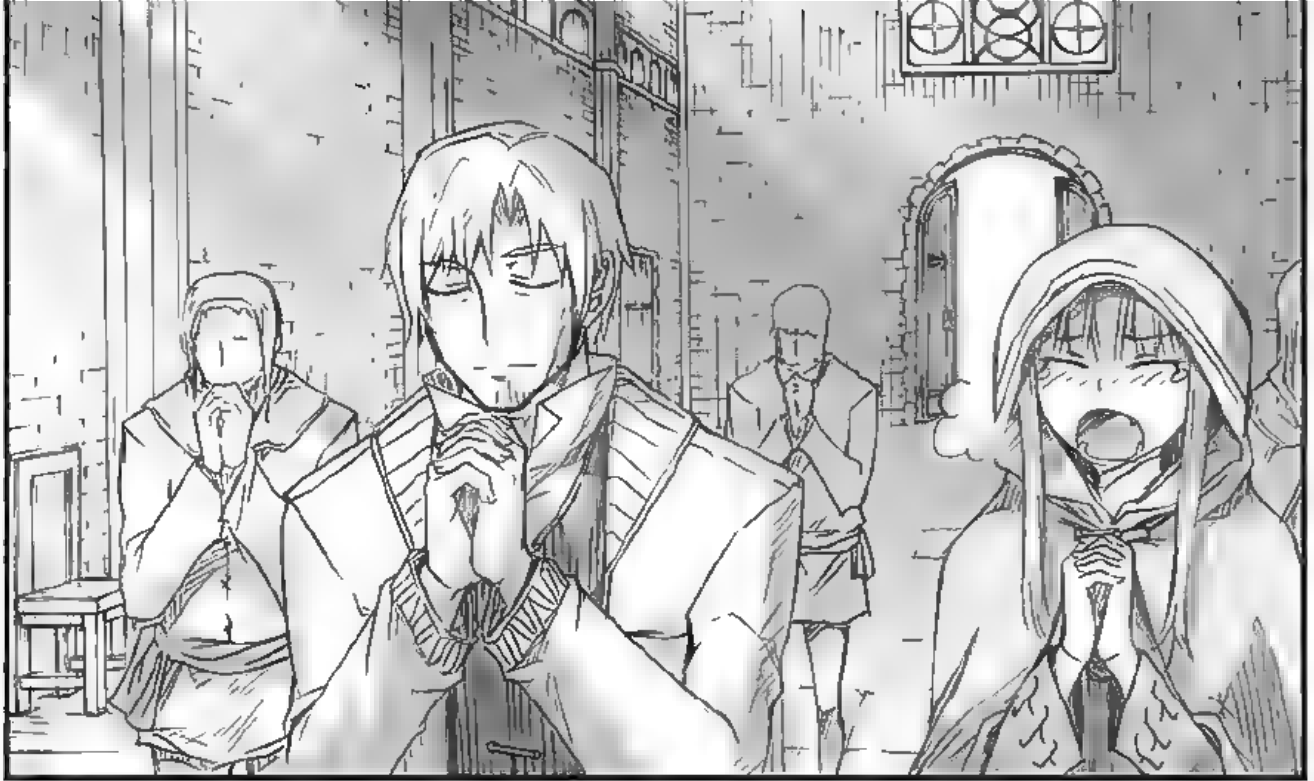
HMPH.



YES,
WELL...

...SO
LONG AS YOU
CLEAN UP AFTER
YOURSELVES, I
DON'T MIND.







MAY GOD'S
BLESSING GO
WITH YOU.



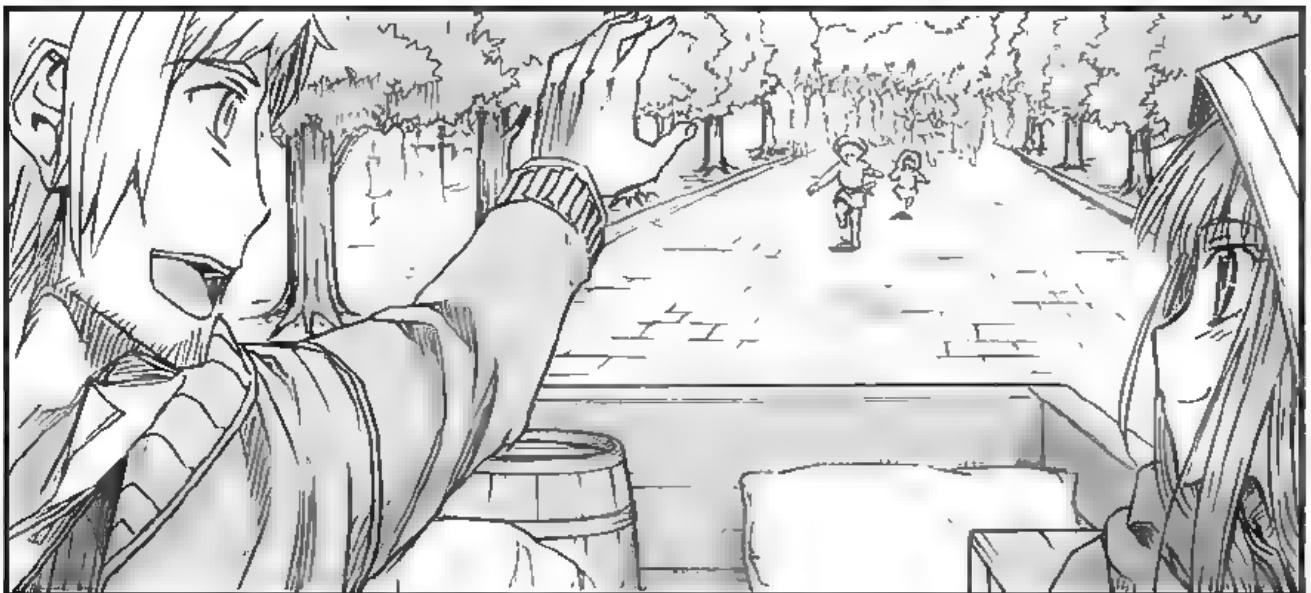
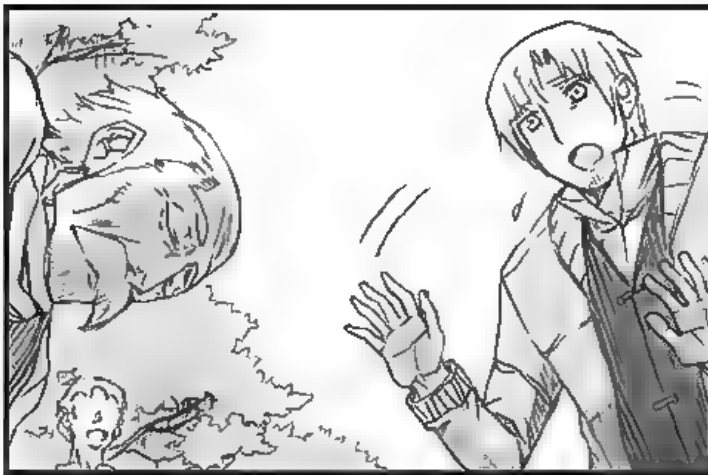
...THANK
YOU FOR
TEACHING
ME SO
MUCH!

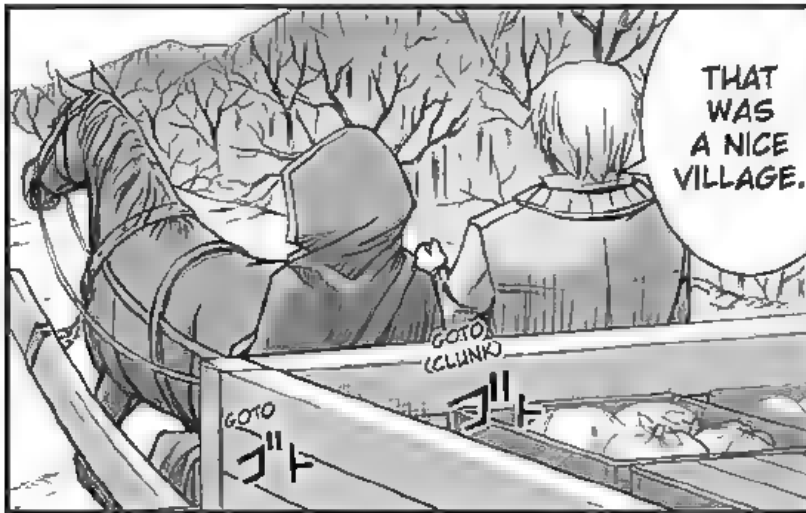
MR.
LAWRENCE
...

GASH
(GRIP)



I PROBABLY
CAN'T DO
WHAT YOU
DID, BUT I'LL
WORK HARD
HERE!



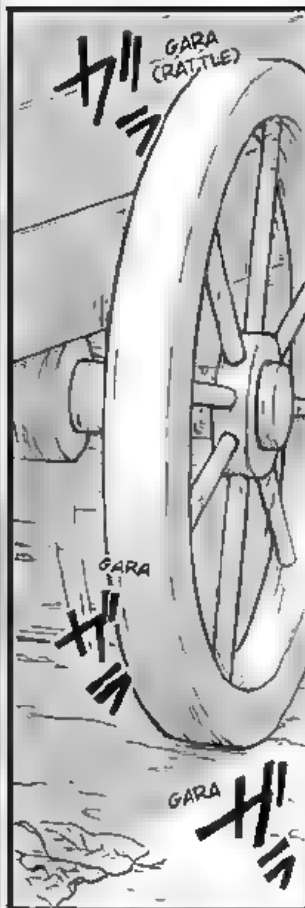




...MMPH.
WE SURELY
MET WITH
CALAMITY
THIS TIME
AROUND.

STILL
...

SAKU
(CRUNCH)



GARA

GARA



IF NOT
FOR ME,
YOU'D
HAVE BEEN
STRIPPED
NAKED AND
BURNED
AT THE
STAKE!



IS
THAT ALL
YOU CARE
ABOUT?

SHAGU
(CRUNCH)

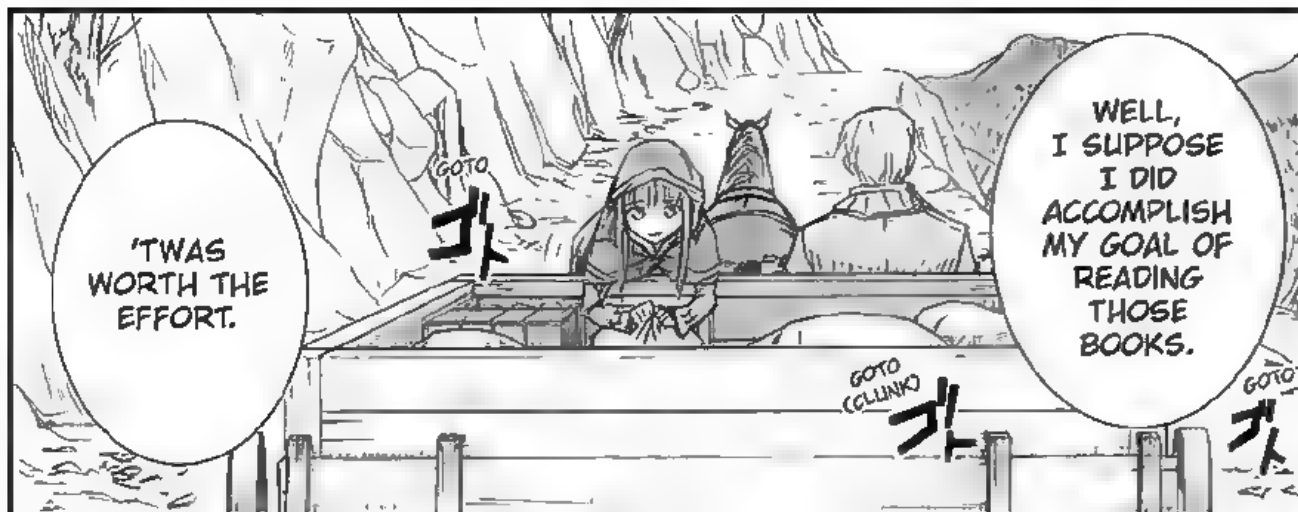
SHAGU

GOSO

GOSO

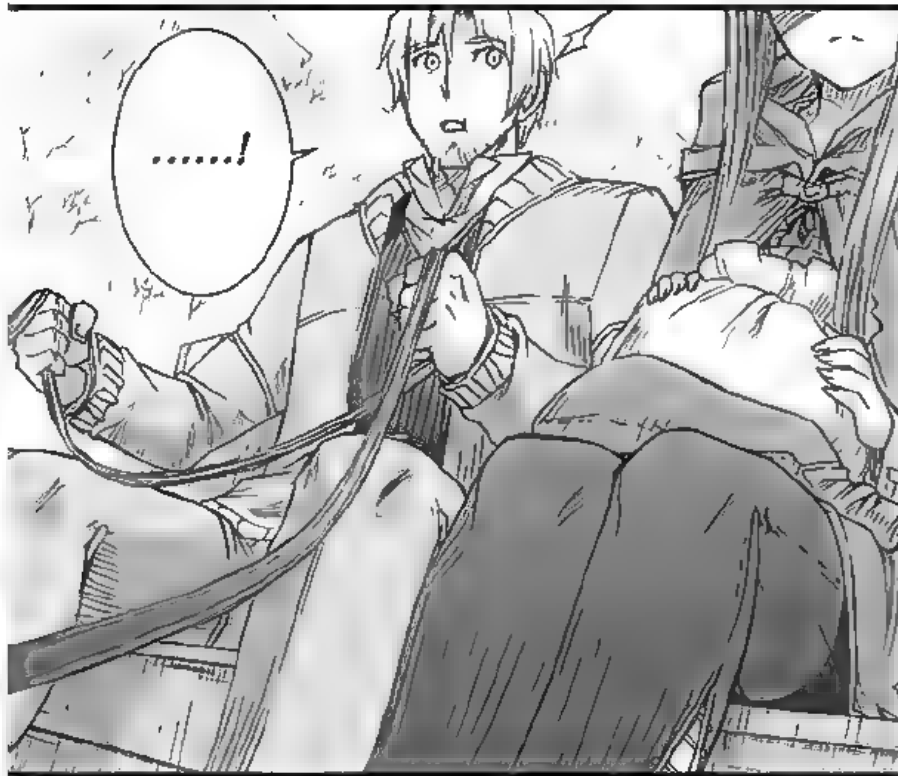
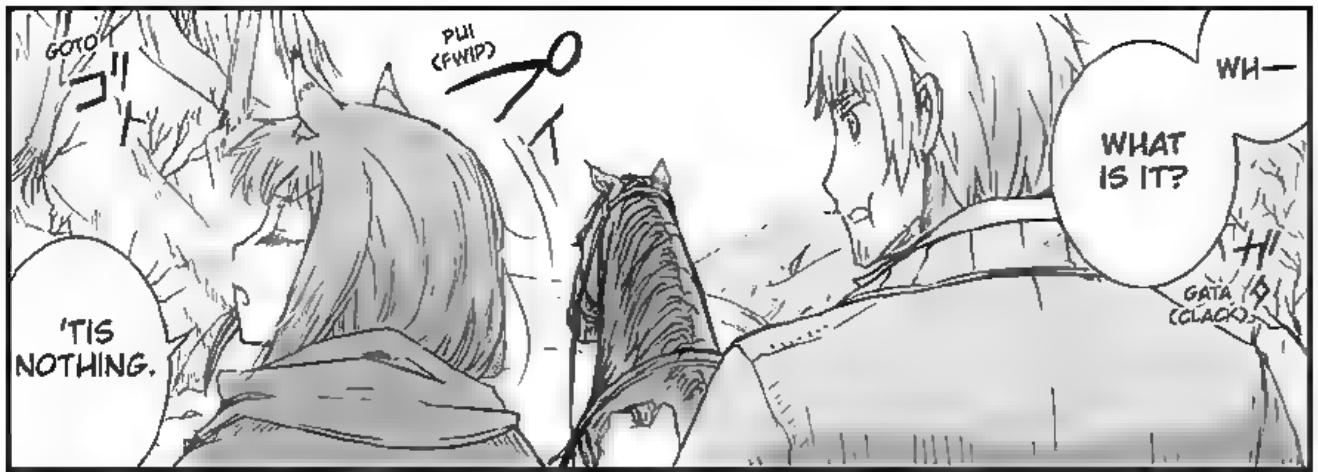


WELL,
WE GOT
THEM TO BUY
OUR EXCESS
WHEAT QUITE
DEARLY, SO
WE MADE A
PROFIT IN
THE END.



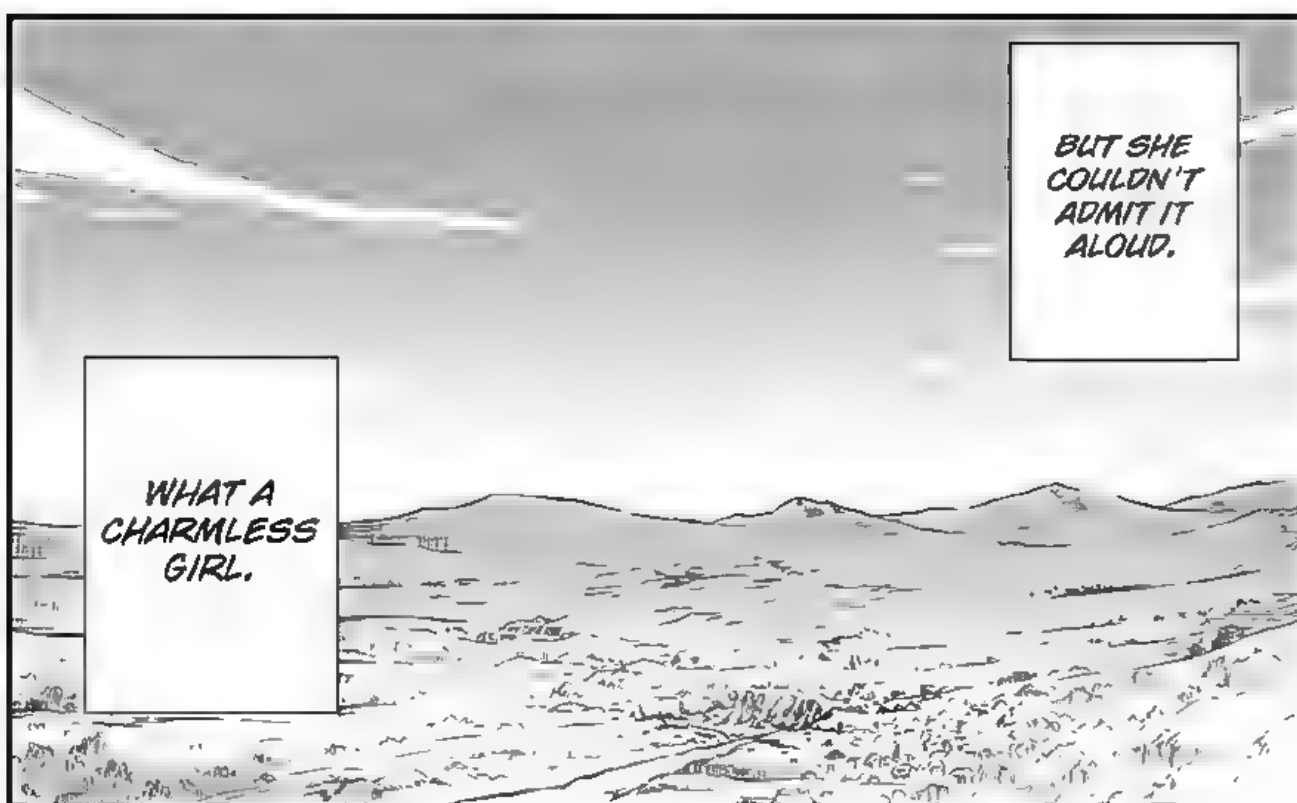












SPICE & WOLF





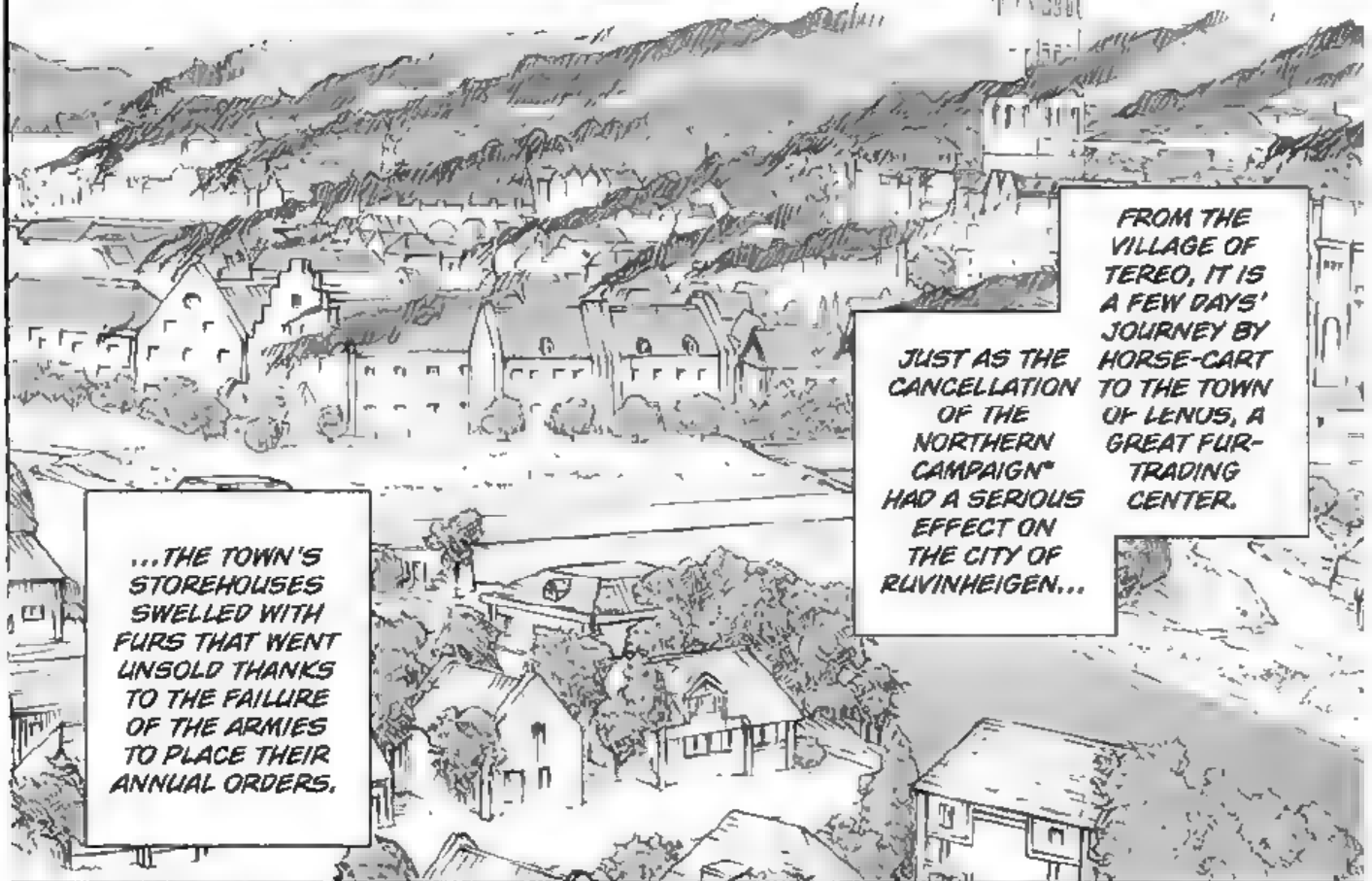
OH-HOH!
SUCH FINE
CARGO!

MY
COMPANION
AS WELL—
SHE'S OFF
BUYING
RATIONS—

SO IT'S
JUST YOU
COMING
ABOARD?

—AND
HERE
SHE
IS.

SPICE & WOLF



...THE TOWN'S
STOREHOUSES
SWELLED WITH
FURS THAT WENT
UNSOLD THANKS
TO THE FAILURE
OF THE ARMIES
TO PLACE THEIR
ANNUAL ORDERS.

JUST AS THE
CANCELLATION
OF THE
NORTHERN
CAMPAIGN*
HAD A SERIOUS
EFFECT ON
THE CITY OF
RUVINHEIGEN...

FROM THE
VILLAGE OF
TEREO, IT IS
A FEW DAYS'
JOURNEY BY
HORSE-CART
TO THE TOWN
OF LENUS, A
GREAT FUR-
TRADING
CENTER.

*NORTHERN CAMPAIGN: A MARCH INTO THE PAGAN LANDS OF THE NORTH THAT SUPPORTED THE ECONOMIES OF THE TOWNS ALONG THE WAY THANKS TO ITS SCALE. SEE VOLUME 2.



IN ORDER TO
AVERT FINANCIAL
CATASTROPHE,
THE CITY'S
ADMINISTRATORS—
THE COUNCIL OF
FIFTY—WAS
EVIDENTLY FORCED
TO ACCEPT HARSH
TERMS.

AS A RESULT,
MERCHANTS
FROM OTHER
TOWNS
CONVERGED ON
LENUS WITH AN
EYE TOWARD
BUYING UP THE
RAW FURS, WHOSE
PRICES HAD
COLLAPSED DUE
TO THE GLUT.



AND THEIR
EFFORTS TO
STOP THE
MERCHANTS
FROM SHIPPING
HUGE AMOUNTS
OF FUR DOWN
THE RIVERS
QUICKLY TURNED
TO VIOLENCE...



BUT
FEARING
FOR THEIR
LIVELIHOODS,
THE FURRIERS'
UNION IN
THE CITY
FURIOUSLY
OPPOSED
THESE
MEASURES.



SHE'S
CALLED
HOLO.

SO
WHAT
WAS
YOUR
NAME?



BUT, MY,
THIS IS A GOOD
OMEN FOR OUR
SAFE PASSAGE
DOWN RIVER!

I'M
RAGLISA,
MASTER
OF THE
ROOM
RIVER!

A FINE
NAME!



THERE
YOU
HAVE
IT!

SO!

GAH
HA
HA!

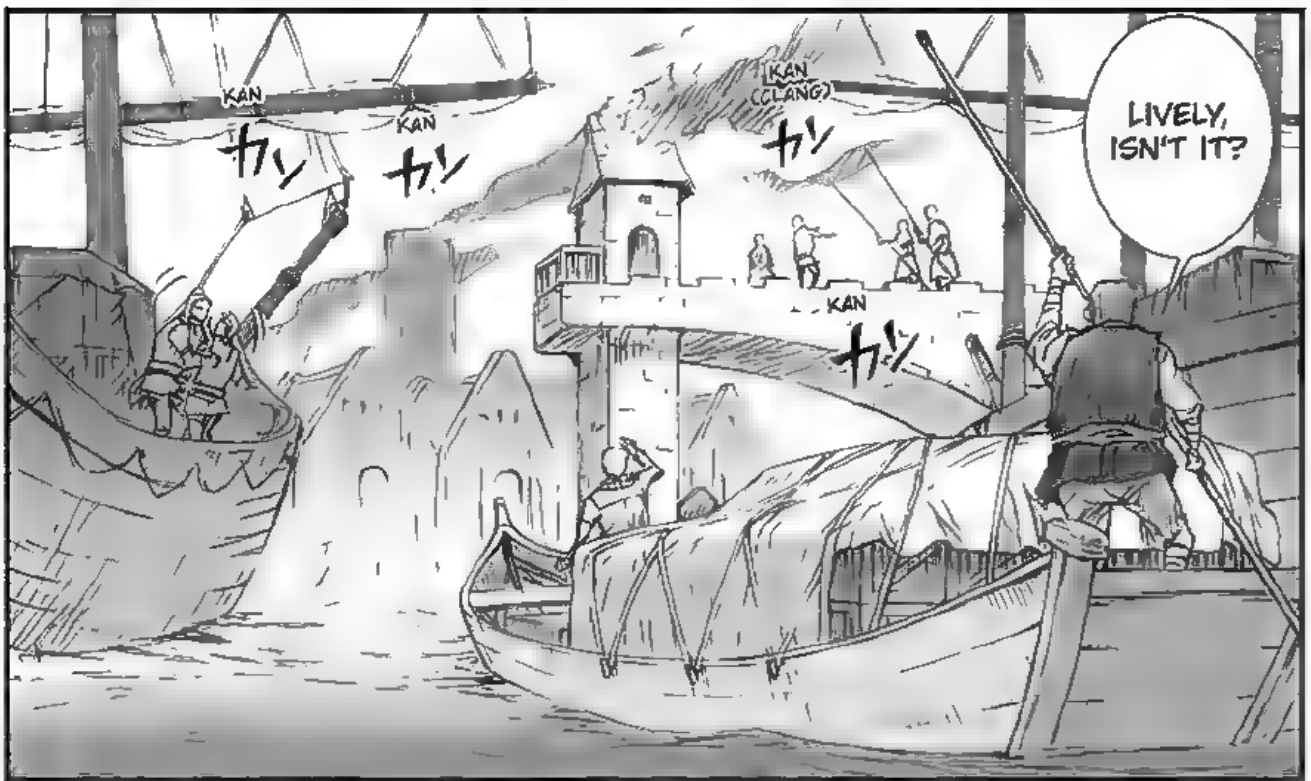
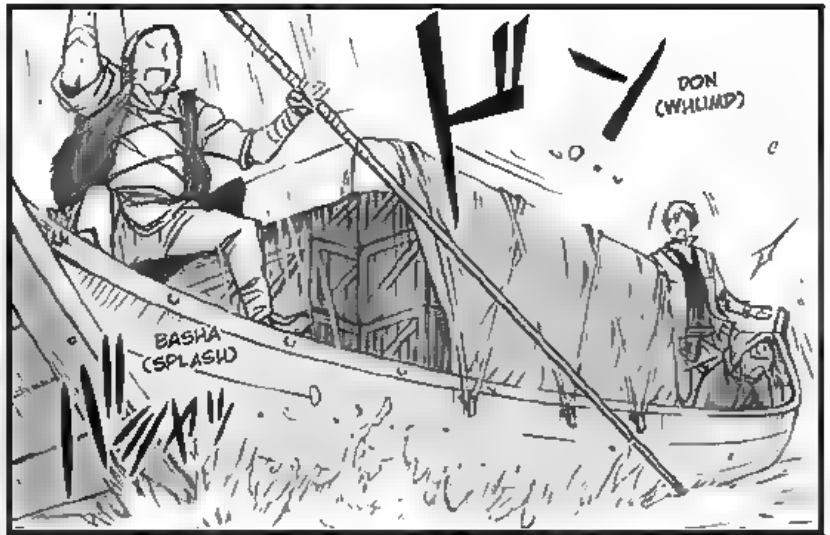


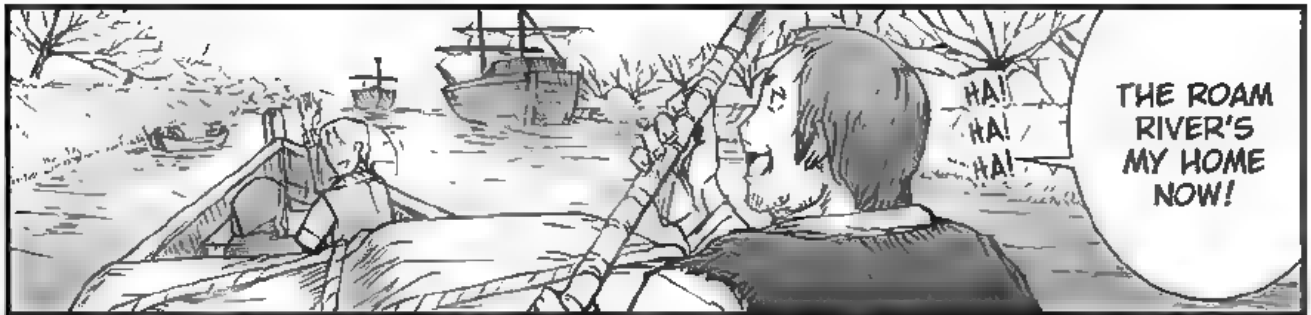
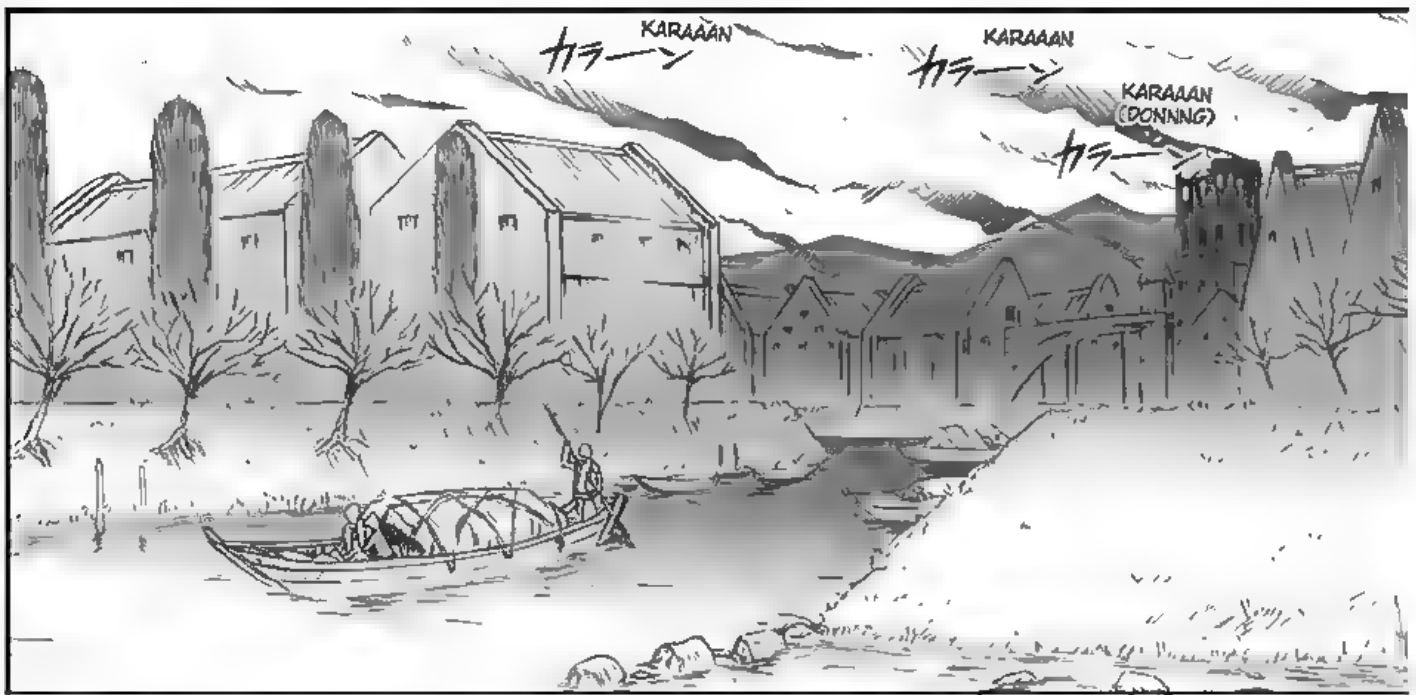
MOST
SHIPS HAVE
THE LIKENESS
OF A BEAUTIFUL
MAIDEN FIXED
TO THEIR
PROWS,
YOU SEE.

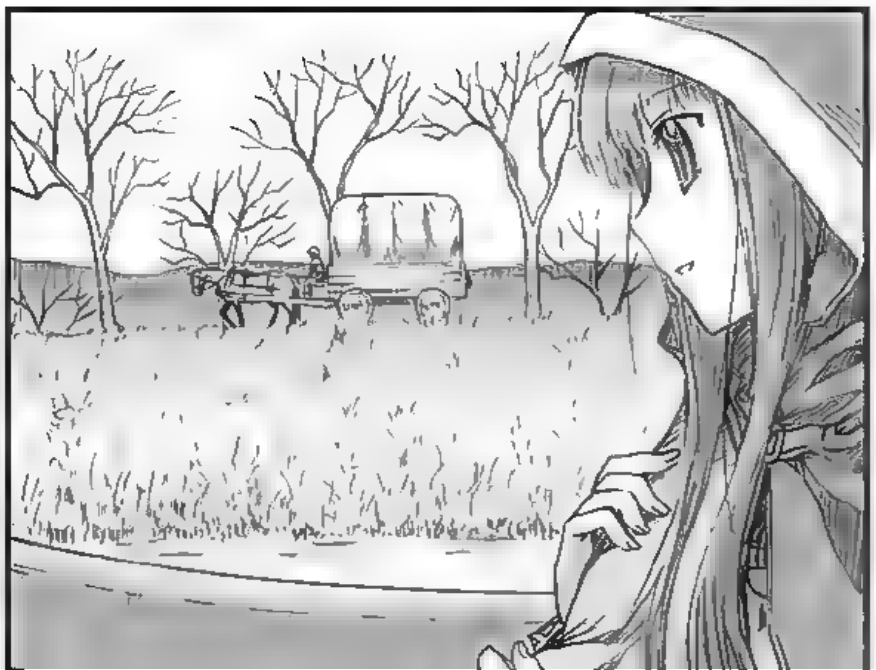
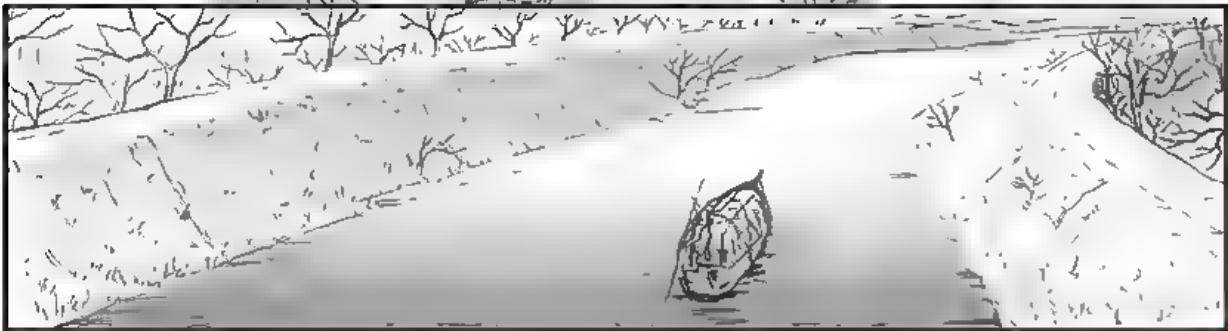


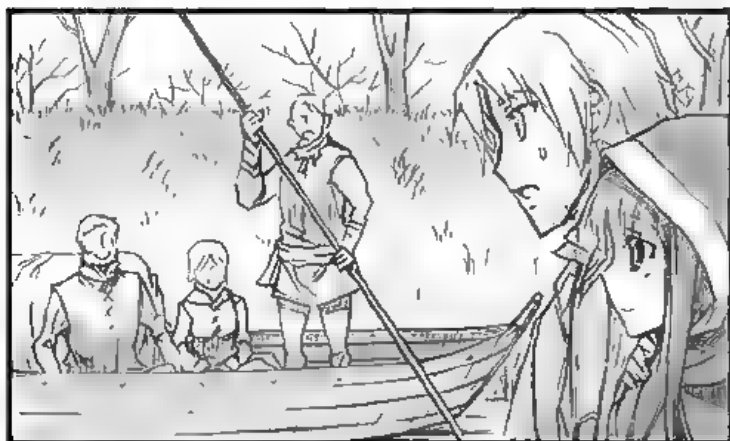
?











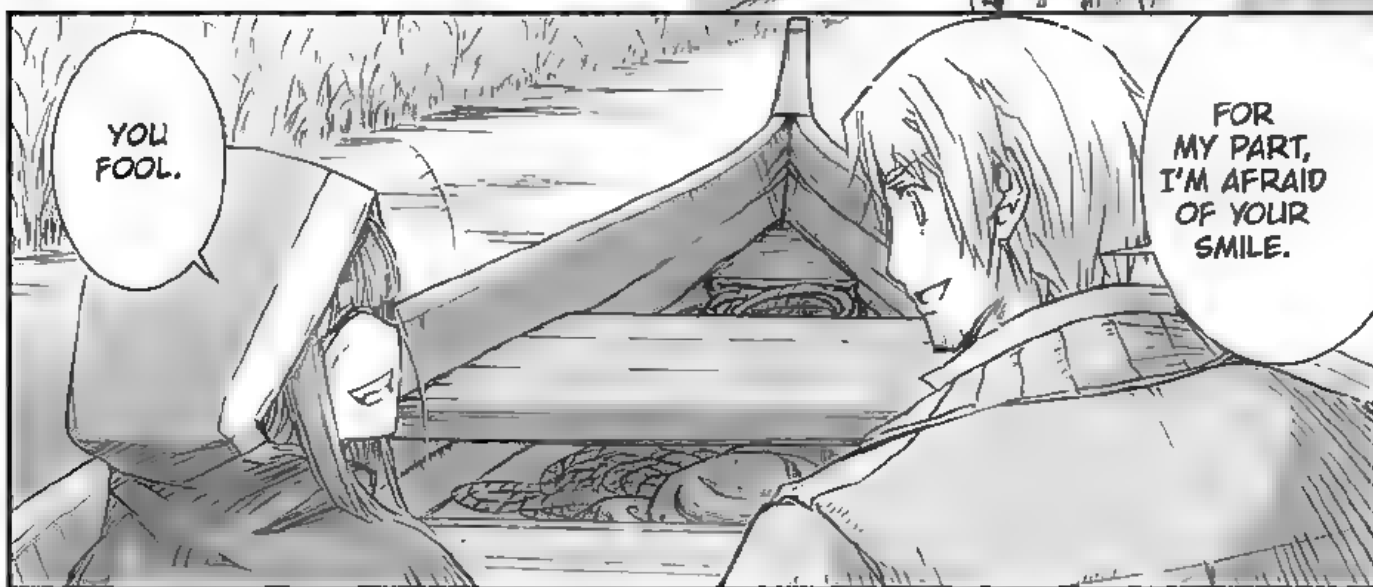
IS
THAT
...?



YOUR
KINDNESS
IS SO VERY
FRIGHTFUL.

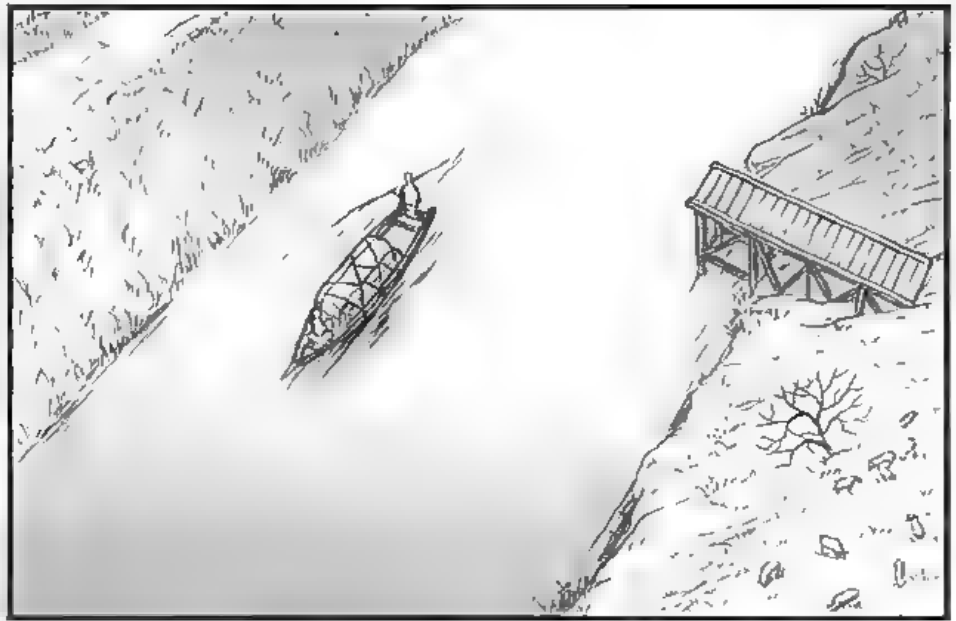
PA
(PAT)

TEE
HEE
HEE!



YOU
FOOL.

FOR
MY PART,
I'M AFRAID
OF YOUR
SMILE.

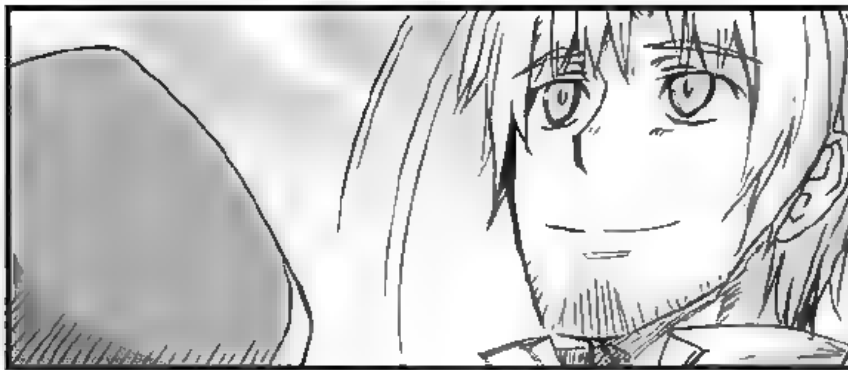


ACCORDING TO
WHAT THEY'D
LEARNED
IN LENOS,
YOITSU MIGHT
HAVE BEEN
SITUATED
IN THE
MOUNTAINS
OF ROEF.

BUT
OWING TO THE
SEVERITY OF
THE UNREST
THERE,
...ELECTED LAWRENCE
TO HEAD AND HOLO
DOWNRIVER COULDN'T
TO THE TOWN ADVANCE,
OF KERUBE TO AND...
GATHER MORE
INFORMATION
FOR A WHILE.









THEY
HAVE TO
PAY FOR
HORSES
TO PULL
THEIR CRAFT
UPSTREAM,
THEN PAY
CARGO
TAXES ON
TOP OF
THAT.

DOUBTFUL.
IT'S ONLY
THE ONES
COMING
FROM THE
SEA THAT
COMPLAIN
ABOUT THE
TAXES.

DO
YOU THINK
THERE'S A
COMPLAINT
ABOUT
THE HIGH
TOLL?

STRANGE
TO SEE SUCH
QUARRELING.

BUT ISN'T
THAT TRUE
FOR YOU AS
WELL WHEN
YOU GO BACK
UPRIVER?

I
SEE.

IT'S
ONLY
NATURAL
TO PAY
RENT.

FOR
FOLKS
LIKE ME,
THE RIVER
IS HOME.

HA
HA
HA!







YOU
THINK ME
UNFEELING,
DO YOU?



AS I
RECALL,
WHEN YOUR
OWN AVARICE
CAUSED YOU TO
STUMBLE, YOU
WALKED ALL
OVER THE CITY,
DESPERATE
FOR AID.

PER-
HAPS,
BUT...



HE'LL LEARN
SOMETHING
FROM THIS.



...I WAS STILL
THE ONE DOING
THE WALKING.







THAT'S
ENOUGH
FROM YOU,
RUNT!



SFX: JITA BATA (FLAIL)



MAS-
TER!

INTO
THE
RIVER
WITH
YOU!

HOLD
THERE A
MOMENT.

YOU
WON'T
GET
AWAY
WITH
IT!

SULLYING
THE NAME
OF DUKE
DIEJIN
AT HIS
CHECK-
POINT!

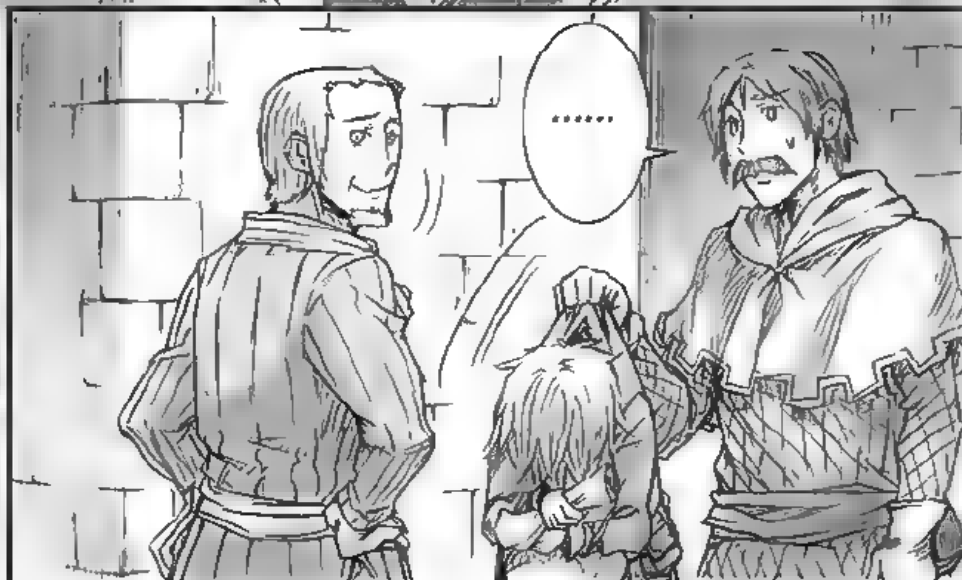


LOOKS
LIKE HE'S
SEEKING
HELP.



NN!?

WHA!?





WE'VE
COME THIS
FAR, SO I
GUESS IT
CAN'T BE
HELPED.



THANK...
YOU...

YOU...
SAVED
ME...



WILL THIS
BLANKET BE
ENOUGH?

YOUR
FACE IS
STILL
BLUE

WHEN
YOU'VE
CALMED
YOURSELF,
YOU SHOULD
SLEEP.



THE
BLESSINGS
OF GOD...
...BE
UPON YOU
BOTH...



ENOUGH
OF THAT.

IT'S THE
PRIVILEGE
OF CHILDREN
TO BE CARED
FOR SO.

SHOULD
I NOW DO
THE SAME
FOR YOU?



IS HE ALL
RIGHT AT
LEAST?



FROM
WHERE
I STAND,
YOU'RE
STILL A
CHILD.



...A GREAT
NUMBER OF
PEOPLE COME
FROM THE
SOUTH, AND
AMONG
THEM ARE
SWINDLERS
APLENTY.

IT
DIDN'T
HAPPEN
THIS YEAR,
BUT COME
THE COLD
SEASON...

I WONDER
WHO
CHEATED
HIM.



MAYBE
PEOPLE
BECAME
WISE TO IT.
SINCE THEN
YOU HARDLY
EVER SEE
THEM.



THE YEAR
BEFORE LAST,
THERE WAS A
VERY SKILLED
FORGER...

...AND
EVEN SHARP
MERCHANTS
WERE BEING
TAKEN IN
BY HIM.



KASA
(RUSTLE)



OF
COURSE, IF
HE'D COPIED
THE TRUE
SEAL, THE
PUNISHMENT
WOULD BE FAR
WORSE, SO IN
A WAY HE'S
LUCKY.

THE
SCRIPT
AND SEAL
BOTH ARE
THIRD-RATE
AT BEST.

IT'S
POORLY
MADE,
THOUGH.

A
DECLARATION
OF RIGHT
TO COLLECT
TAXES FROM
DUKE DIEJIN,
EH?



WELL,
SO LONG AS
THE EXTRA
FARE GETS
PAID, ANYONE'S
MORE THAN
WELCOME
ABOARD!



AH,
ER...
RIGHT.

I SUPPOSE
THAT PUTS
AN END
TO YOUR
GROOMING
FOR A
WHILE.



WHA
—!?

SPICE & WOLF

THANK
YOU...
TRULY,
THANK
YOU.

BY THE
BLESSING OF
SAINT LAMBARDOS
OR PERHAPS THE
GODDESS OF THE
HARVEST, THEY'D
ADDED THE BOY TO
THEIR PARTY. AND
HE MUST HAVE
BEEN TIRED...

...FOR HE SLEPT
NEARLY A FULL
DAY BEFORE
AWAKENING AND
INTRODUCING
HIMSELF.

MY
NAME'S...
MMPH...
TOTE
COL.

I WAS A
STUDENT IN A
TOWN CALLED
AQUENT...BUT
I RAN OUT
OF MONEY.





BUT
NO MATTER
WHERE I GO,
THEY SAY
THERE'S NO
WORK TO BE
HAD THIS
YEAR.

SO I
CAME TO
THIS AREA
SEEKING
WORK.



ONE
TRENNI...
AND EIGHT
LUTE.



WAS THE
TRAVELING
PEDDLER
YOU BOUGHT
FROM SO
IMPRESSIVE-
LOOKING?

THAT'S
QUITE AN
INVEST-
MENT.



SO,
COL...

...HOW
MUCH DID
YOU PAY
FOR THESE
PAPERS?



...I WAS
THINKING
I'D LET YOU
HAVE THESE
DOCUMENTS
...

SO...



BUT!
ALAS, I AM
NOT LONG FOR
THIS WORLD AND
WISH TO RETURN
HOME BEFORE
I DIE!



WELL...

JUST LOOK
AT MY RIGHT
ARM! THIS
IS THE PRICE
I PAID FOR
THESE...



MORE
THAN HALF
OF THEM
AREN'T
EVEN
FORG-
ERIES.



.....
ABOUT
THESE
PAPERS...

HE'S
FAMOUS
AROUND
HERE.



GAKU
(SLUMP)

...THERE
WERE SO
MANY...

I CAN
READ,
BUT...

THIS
KIND OF
THING,
I SEE IT
ALL THE
TIME.



LOOK
HERE,
THERE
ARE EVEN
NOTICES OF
PAYMENT
SENT.



WH-
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

MOST OF
THESE ARE
DOCUMENTS
STOLEN
FROM SOME
TRADING
FIRM SOME-
WHERE.



...AND
PAPER'S
ALWAYS USEFUL,
SO THEY'VE BEEN
PASSED AROUND
FROM ONE
MERCHANT
TO THE NEXT,
NEVER GETTING
THROWN
AWAY.

THESE
PAPERS
AREN'T GOOD
FOR DRAWING
ANY MONEY, BUT
THEY'RE GOOD
FOR GETTING A
LAUGH AMONG
MERCHANTS...



USUALLY
AN AP-
PRENTICE
AT THE
FIRM.

WHO
WOULD
STEAL
THIS?



IT'S
BENEATH
THEIR
DIGNITY

I SEE.
IF THEY
FRANTICALLY
CHASE DOWN
PAPERS,
STRANGE
RUMORS WILL
START TO
SWIRL.



ONE
WHO'S
GOTTEN
TIRED OF BEING
WORKED TOO
HARD—THEY'LL
GRAB THEM
ON THEIR WAY
OUT AS A
FINAL PIECE
OF PAY.

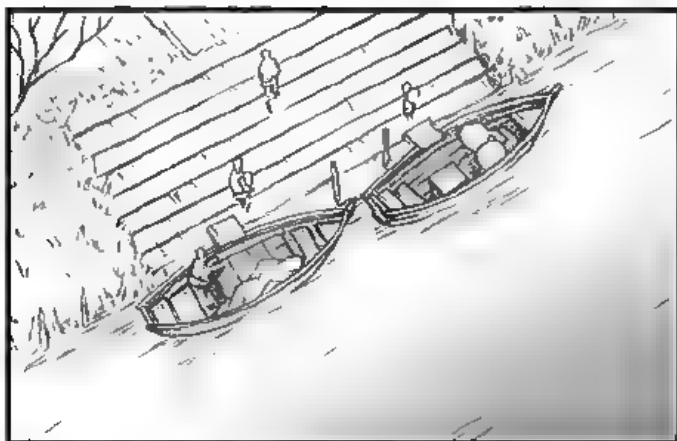


THEY SAY
IGNORANCE
IS A SIN...

THAT'S
ABOUT THE
SIZE OF IT...

IF YOU
TAKE MONEY,
THE COMPANY
WILL COME AFTER
YOU IN EARNEST.
BUT WITH SOME-
THING LIKE THIS,
THE FIRM HAS ITS
REPUTATION TO
CONSIDER, SO IT'S
HARDER FOR
THEM TO PURSUE.





T-
TWENTY
LUTE,
THEN...





I HEARD
SOMEWHERE
THAT THE MORE
EARNEST THE
MAN, THE
EASIER A
MARK HE
MAKES.



OH,
INDEED.
TO GET
TAKEN IN
THE WAY
HE WAS,
HE WOULD
HAVE TO
BE.

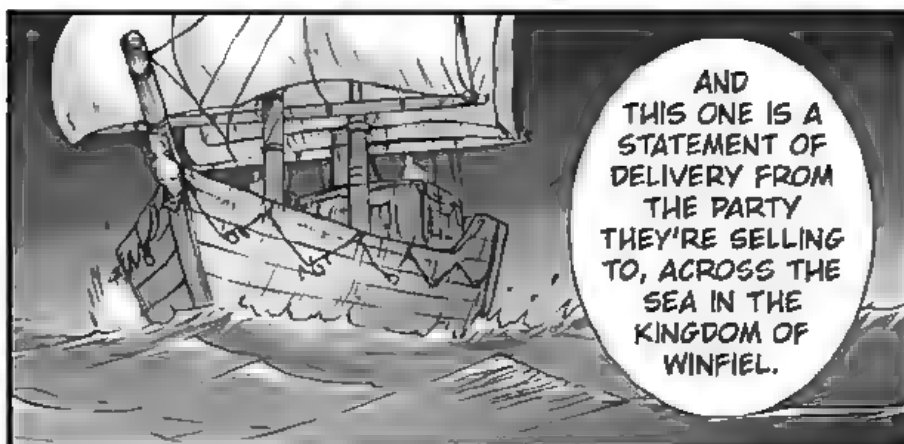


SO...HAVE
YOU FOUND
ANYTHING OF
INTEREST?



SENT TO
A DIFFERENT
COMPANY UP
THE ROAM
RIVER.

THEY'RE
FROM
THE JEAN
COMPANY IN
KERUBE.



AND
THIS ONE IS A
STATEMENT OF
DELIVERY FROM
THE PARTY
THEY'RE SELLING
TO, ACROSS THE
SEA IN THE
KINGDOM OF
WINFEL.



SEEMS OUR
ONE-ARMED
SWINDLER
MAKES THE
TERRITORY
ALONG THE
ROAM RIVER
HIS HOME.

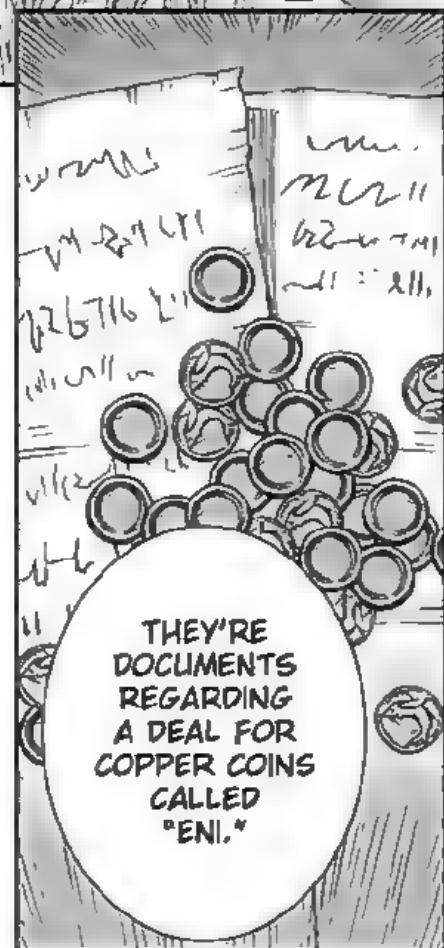
HENCE
THE
COINCI-
DENCE.

THIS IS
A SET OF
PURCHASE
AND SALE
DOCUMENTS
FOR THE
SAME
GOODS.

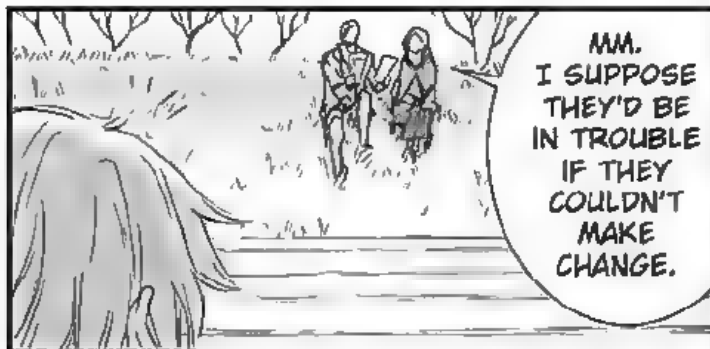
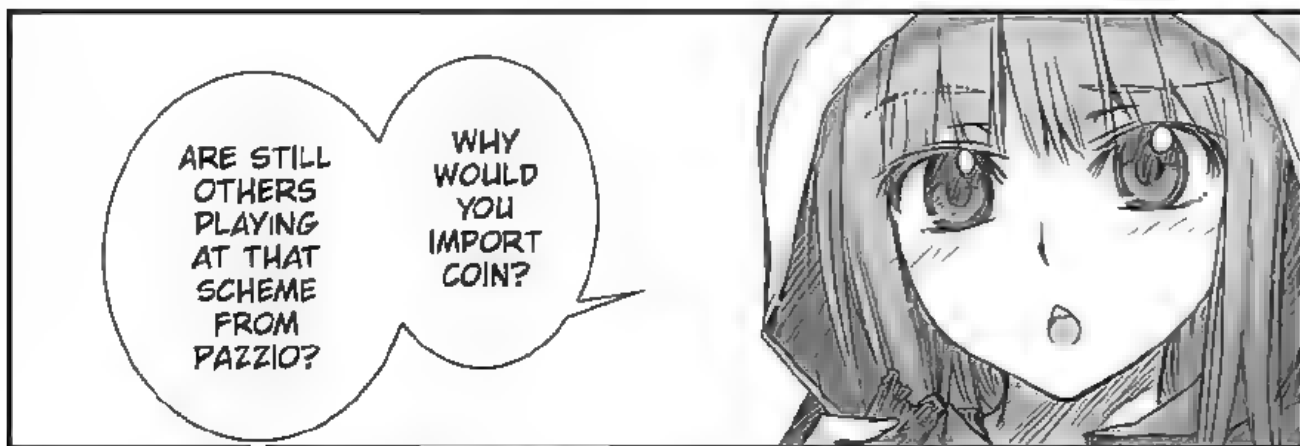


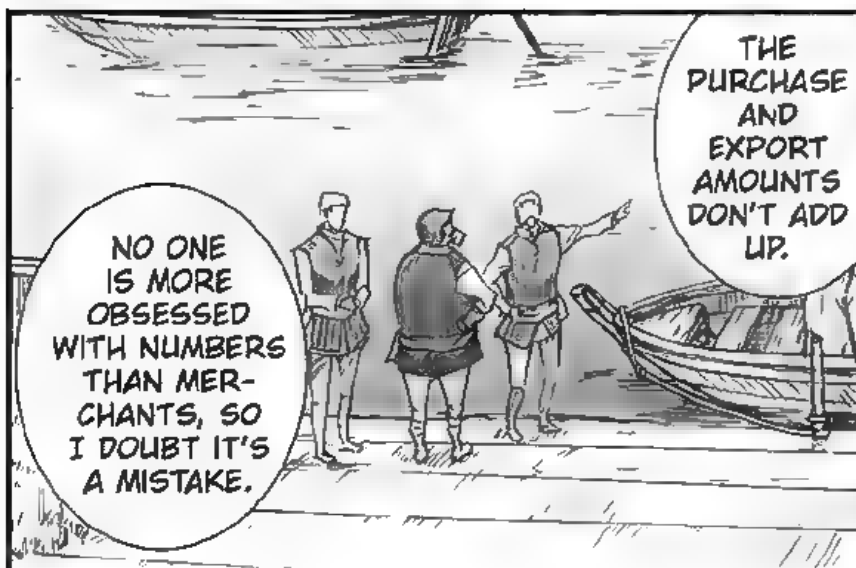
OH,
AYE?

FOR
EXAMPLE,
THESE TWO
PAGES.



THEY'RE
DOCUMENTS
REGARDING
A DEAL FOR
COPPER COINS
CALLED
"ENI."







Y-
YES!



CAN
YOU
READ
THIS?



JII
(STARE)



TIN...
GOLDSMITHING...
AND...AH-NEE
...?

OOH,
YOU'RE
PRETTY
GOOD.

...WAX,
GLASS
BOTTLES,
BOOKS...
BUCKLES?
IRON
PLATE...

LIM
...

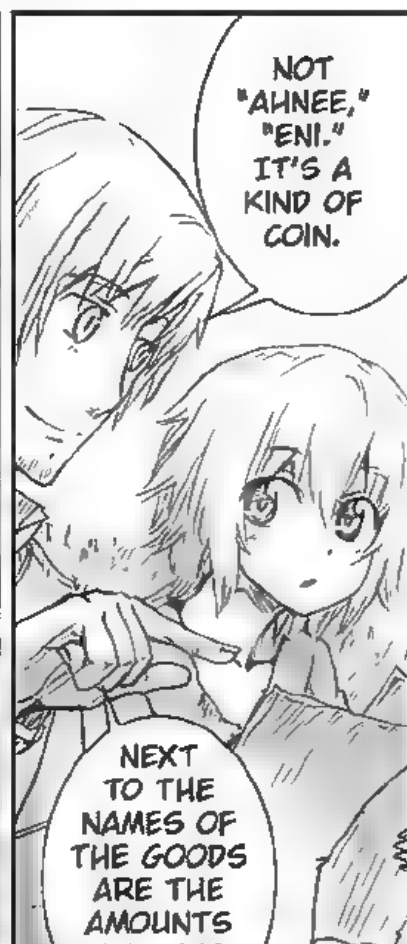


...THEY'RE
NOT MAKING
UP THE
DIFFERENCE
FROM A
PREVIOUS
PURCHASE,
YOU DON'T
THINK?



PURCHASED...
FIFTY-EIGHT
CHESTS...
EXPORTED...

...SIXTY
CHESTS?



NOT
"AHNEE,"
"ENI."
IT'S A
KIND OF
COIN.

NEXT
TO THE
NAMES OF
THE GOODS
ARE THE
AMOUNTS
AND THE
PRICES.



GENERALLY
PEOPLE TRY
TO AVOID COM-
PLICATIONS.

THAT'S NOT
IMPOSSIBLE,
BUT COIN
TRANSACTIONS
ARE ESPECIALLY
STRICT.



WAKU
(EXCITED)

THIS
IS PROOF
OF REGULAR
PURCHASES.

HERE IT SAYS,
"PER USUAL,
TRANSPORT
COSTS AND
CUSTOMS
DUTIES ARE
THE RESPON-
SIBILITY
OF THE
BUYER."

WAKU



THAT'S
TRUE...

HMPH!

STILL, WHY
IS THE ORDER
IN CHESTS?
SHOULD COINS
BE COUNTED OUT
INDIVIDUALLY?

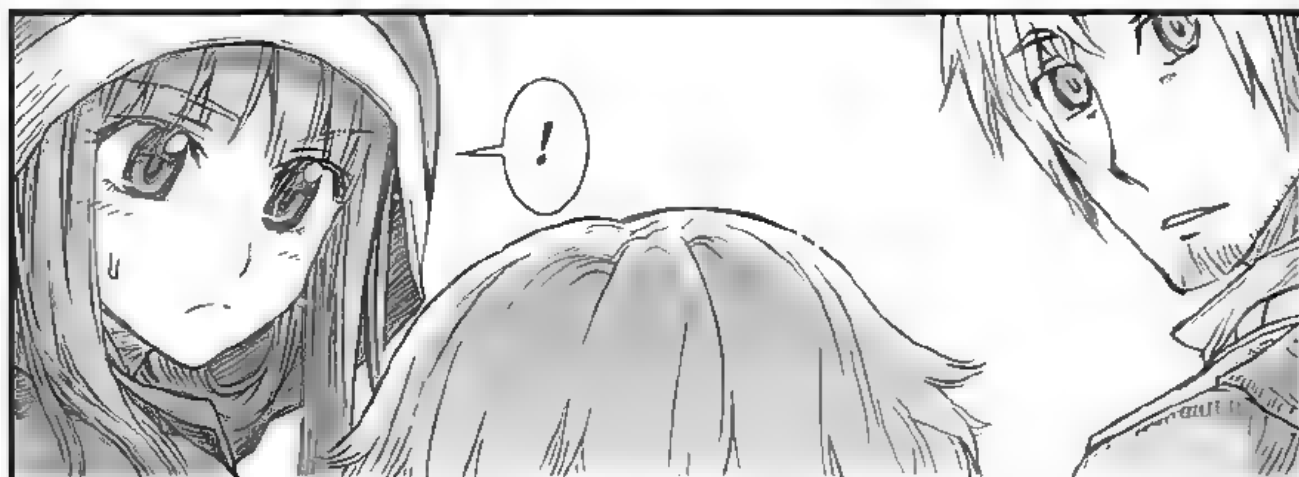


IF WE
CAUGHT THEM
SMUGGLING
OR SOMETHING,
THAT WOULD BE
A DIFFERENT
STORY.

AH, BUT
THIS STILL
ISN'T WORTH
ANY MONEY
TO US.









NO...

N...

GWI
(TUG)

GWI

...IS
THAT—
.....IS
THAT
GOD...



UM...

I'VE
HEARD THAT
LORD PINLI IS
SUPPOSED TO
BE A GREAT
FROG.



ALL
RIGHT.



I SIMPLY
HAVE A
BIT OF
HISTORY
WITH THE
CHURCH,
IS ALL.
PLEASE
CONTINUE.

'TIS
WELL.

.....A
WOLF-GOD,
BY ANY
CHANCE?



...MAYBE
THREE
YEARS AGO...
A GROUP OF
MISSIONARIES
ARRIVED.

IN A
VILLAGE
NEAR
PINU...



THE
HEADMEN OF
ALL THE NEARBY
VILLAGES MET
AND HELD A
MEETING TO
DISCUSS HOW
TO DEAL WITH
THEM.

APPARENTLY
THEY HADN'T
MET LIKE
THIS IN 220
YEARS.



I HEAR
THEY WERE
QUITE
FORCEFUL
WITH THEIR
TEACHINGS.



I THINK
I KNOW
WHERE
THIS IS
GOING...



BUT
EVENTUALLY
THE LEADER
OF THE
CHURCH
FELL
ILL...
...AND
WE WERE
SAVED
WHEN HE
LEFT THE
MOUNTAIN.

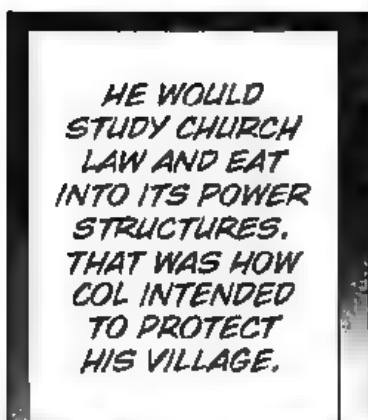


I'M
SURE
YOU CAN
DO IT.

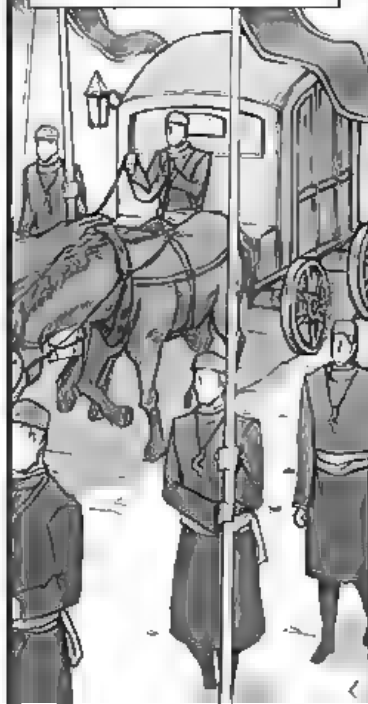
BUKU
(BLUB)



THE
HEADMAN...
AND THE
ELDERWOMAN...
SUPPORTED
ME...



HE WOULD
STUDY CHURCH
LAW AND EAT
INTO ITS POWER
STRUCTURES.
THAT WAS HOW
COL INTENDED
TO PROTECT
HIS VILLAGE.



HE REALIZED
THE ABSURD
POWER THAT
CAME WITH
WEARING THE
ROBES OF A
HIGH-RANKING
PRIEST—
THE POWER TO
CONTROL HUMAN
LIVES AT WILL.

THEY
SECRETLY LENT
ME SOME MONEY
TOO...SO I HAVE
TO FIND A WAY
TO GET BACK
INTO SCHOOL.



COL
WAS A
BRIGHT
LAD.



AND
NO ONE
OPPOSED
YOUR
DECISION?



UWA
(SOB)

ABOUT
THAT ENI
COIN WE
WERE
JUST
SPEAKING
OF...

OH!
N-NO,
THAT'S
NOT—

GUSH
(SNIFF)

I CAN'T
REALLY HELP
YOU OUT WITH
YOUR MONEY
PROBLEMS
RIGHT NOW,
BUT...

REALLY?

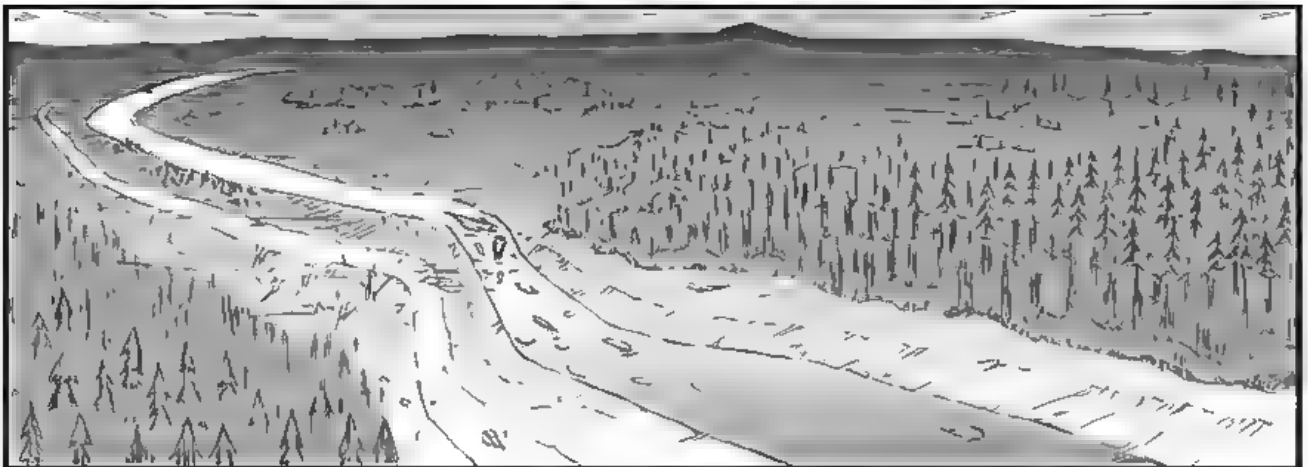
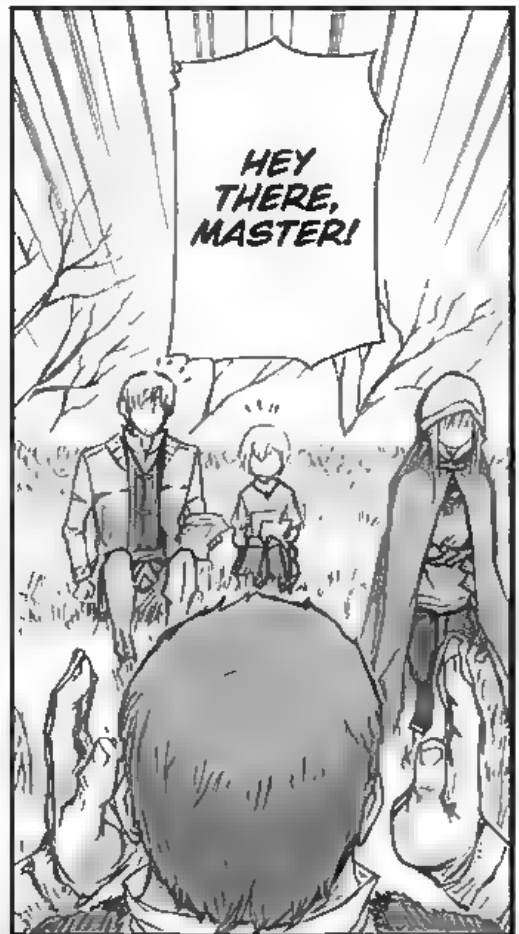
IT'S
ALWAYS
NICER TO
TRAVEL FREE
FROM WORRY,
AFTER
ALL.

...IF YOU CAN
SOLVE THE
MYSTERY OF
THE MISSING
CHESTS,
THERE MIGHT
BE A REWARD
IN IT FOR
YOU.

WHY DON'T
YOU THINK IT
OVER TOO?
YOU LIKE USING
YOUR HEAD,
RIGHT?

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.







WHAT
A MESS...
THE DAMNED
THING'S RUN
AGROUND...

THEY'RE
SAYING IT'S
HUNG UP ON
THE WRECK
OF A SUNKEN
SHIP AT THE
BOTTOM.

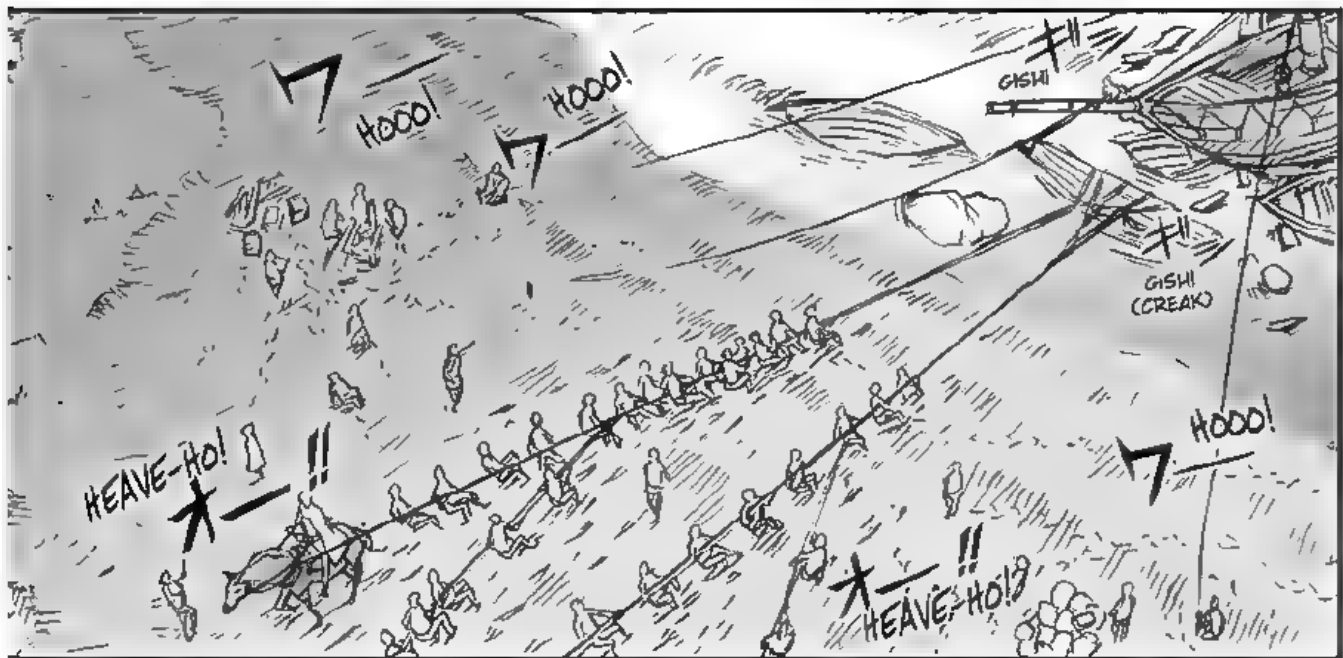
THEY'RE
ALL IN A
TERRIBLE
HURRY,
TRYING TO
MOVE THOSE
DAMNED
FURS...

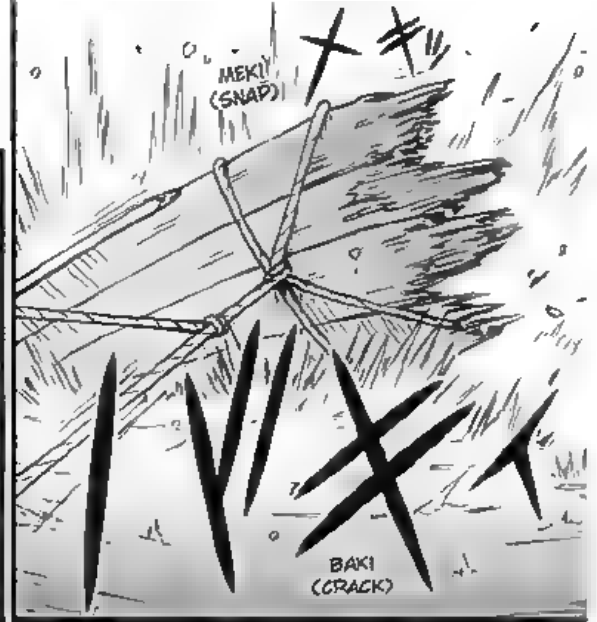


BY
THE TIME
I NOTICED,
THEY'D
ALREADY
STARTED
PILING
UP.

HYOI
(JUMP)









THIS REALLY IS THE WORST LUCK. I GUESS THEY'LL BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT BY TOMORROW MORNING.

I THINK WE'RE STOPPING FOR TODAY.



I'LL TAKE YOU AT YOUR WORD, THEN.

HA HA HA!

THAT'S A MERCHANT FOR YA



SO LONG AS YOU'LL LOWER YOUR FARE A BIT, I DON'T MIND AT ALL.



CAN NOTHING BE DONE?



I RECKON SO. STILL, THIS IS MADNESS.

THEY COULD BE STRAPPED TO THE BREAKING WHEEL FOR THIS, WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A BY-YOUR-LEAVE. TERRIFYING.



DO YOU THINK THE SHIP SINKING HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE FUR TRADE?



I'M SURE COUNT BULGAR WILL BRING A MOUNTAIN OF FINE HORSES TO PULL IT FREE.

HA!

HA!

HA!



IT WAS
THE SORT OF
DANGER THAT
A GREATER
MERCHANT
SHRUGGED
OFF WITHOUT
SO MUCH AS
A THOUGHT.



BY THE
WAY...

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT...



EVEN AS
A FELLOW
MERCHANT,
I MUST SAY
I CAN'T
UNDERSTAND
IT.

GOSHI
(RUB)

STILL,
IT'S QUITE
IRRITATING.
JUST BEING
DELAYED
IS BAD
ENOUGH,
BUT...

...WHEN
I THINK
OF WHAT'LL
HAPPEN ONCE
I MAKE IT TO
KERUBE, IT'S
DOWNRIGHT
DEPRESS-
ING.



WHA
...!?

...DID
SOMETHING
HAPPEN WITH
YOUR LOVELY
COMPANION?







THAT'S
THE
WAY!



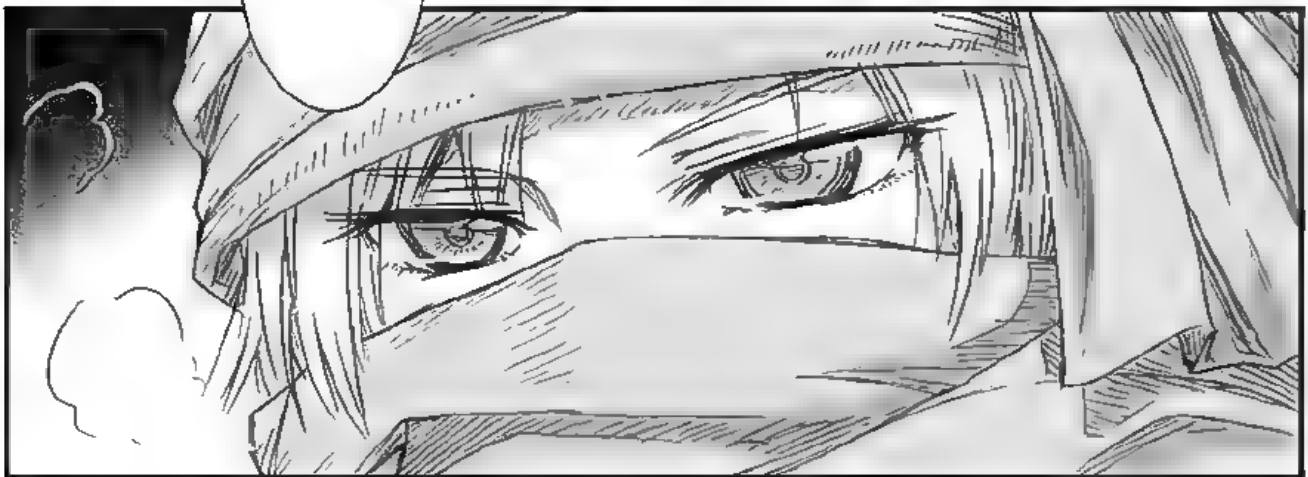


IT
QUITE
SUITS
HER!



I'M GOING
TO HAVE TO
FIGURE OUT
WHY HOLO'S
ANGRY WITH
ME...

NOW,
DRINK
UP!
DRINK
UP!

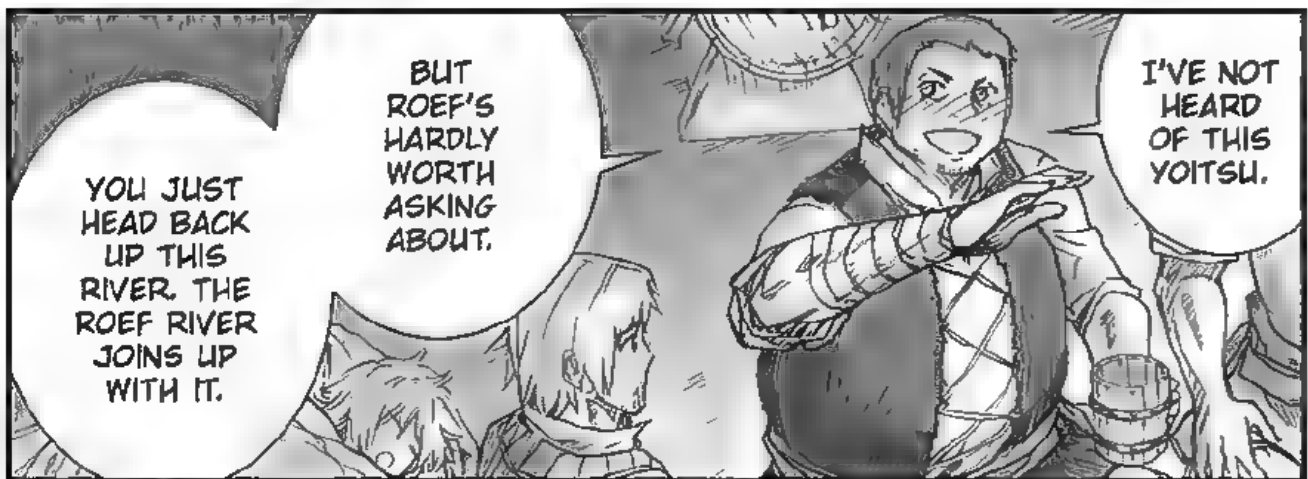


SPICE & WOLF



SPICE & WOLF







MNNGH...
UHH...
CAN'T
HOLD ANY
MORE...



YOU SAID
YOU TOOK A
STRANGE JOB
RECENTLY,
DIDN'T
YOU?

HUH?



I BROUGHT
COPPER
OUT OF THE
MOUNTAINS
THERE...
IT FLOWED
LIKE WATER.

AND THE
LIQUOR
THERE'S
FIRST-
RATE...



IDIOT!
HEY! YOU
BROUGHT IT
OUT OF LESKO,
ON THE ROEF
HEADWATERS,
DIDN'T
YOU?

LESKO?
AH, YES,
IT'S A
GOOD
TOWN...



OH, MY
COPPER-
SKINNED
BRIDE!

THE
BLESSINGS
OF FIRE AND
WATER BE
UPON YOUR
SHINING
SKIN!



MM?
OH, AYE!
YOU'RE
QUITE
KNOWL-
EDGE-
ABLE.

"COPPER-
SKINNED
BRIDE,"
HE SAID...
DID HE
MEAN A
STILL?



CLONK
(CLONK)

WORTH-
LESS!



HE'D
BEEN CARRYING
MONEY ORDERS
FOR THE SAME
COMPANY OVER
AND OVER.

...?
WOULDN'T
THAT BE...
THE SORT OF
LETTER YOU'D
LEAVE TO THE
BUTCHER?



GO
(CLONK)

THE
LIQUOR
YOU'RE
DRINKING WAS
PROBABLY
DISTILLED
IN A LESKO
STILL.



I'M AFRAID
OLD ZONAL HAS
GOTTEN HIMSELF
MIXED UP IN
SOME STRANGE
DEALINGS. HE'S
BEEN COMPLAINING
ABOUT IT QUITE
A BIT.

BE THAT
AS IT MAY,
THIS WON'T
DO...

UW
(SNOORE)



WHERE WAS
IT, AGAIN...?
THE JEAN
COMPANY, IN
KERUBE, I
THINK...

!



IT
WASN'T
JUST
ONCE OR
TWICE,
YOU
KNOW!

*MONEY ORDER, A WAY OF TRANSFERRING FUNDS BY PROOF
OF LETTER OR STAMP WITHOUT MOVING COIN ITSELF



OVER
AND
OVER!

...HE WAS
APPARENTLY
GIVEN A
CERTIFICATE
OF REFUSAL.

WELL,
WHEN HE
DELIVERED A
MONEY ORDER
TO THE JEAN
COMPANY IN
KERUBE THAT
HE'D PICKED
UP IN LESKO...



SOME-
ONE IS
DEFINITELY
UP TO SOME-
THING.



STRANGE,
ISN'T IT? HE
WAS GIVEN
MONEY ORDERS
TIME AND AGAIN,
ONLY TO HAVE
THEM REJECTED
EVERY
TIME.

A
CERTI-
FICATE
OF RE-
FUSAL
?



AND MONEY'S
VALUE IS ALWAYS
CHANGING. IF THE
VALUE CHANGED
WHILE THE MONEY
ORDER WAS IN
TRANSIT...THEY
MIGHT NOT WANT
TO HONOR THE
ORDER, OR...

IT'S
A MONEY
ORDER...
IN OTHER
WORDS,
THEY'RE
TRANSPORTING
MONEY.

HMM...



IT'S
PROBABLY...
NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT.



TRUE
ENOUGH.

...IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE
TO KNOW
EVERY-
THING.

WHILE
IT MAY
BE THAT
IGNORANCE
IS A
SIN...



I WATCHED
THE BOY'S
CLUMSINESS
WITH A
SMILE, BUT
NOW I SEE
I'M NOT SO
DIFFERENT
MYSELF.

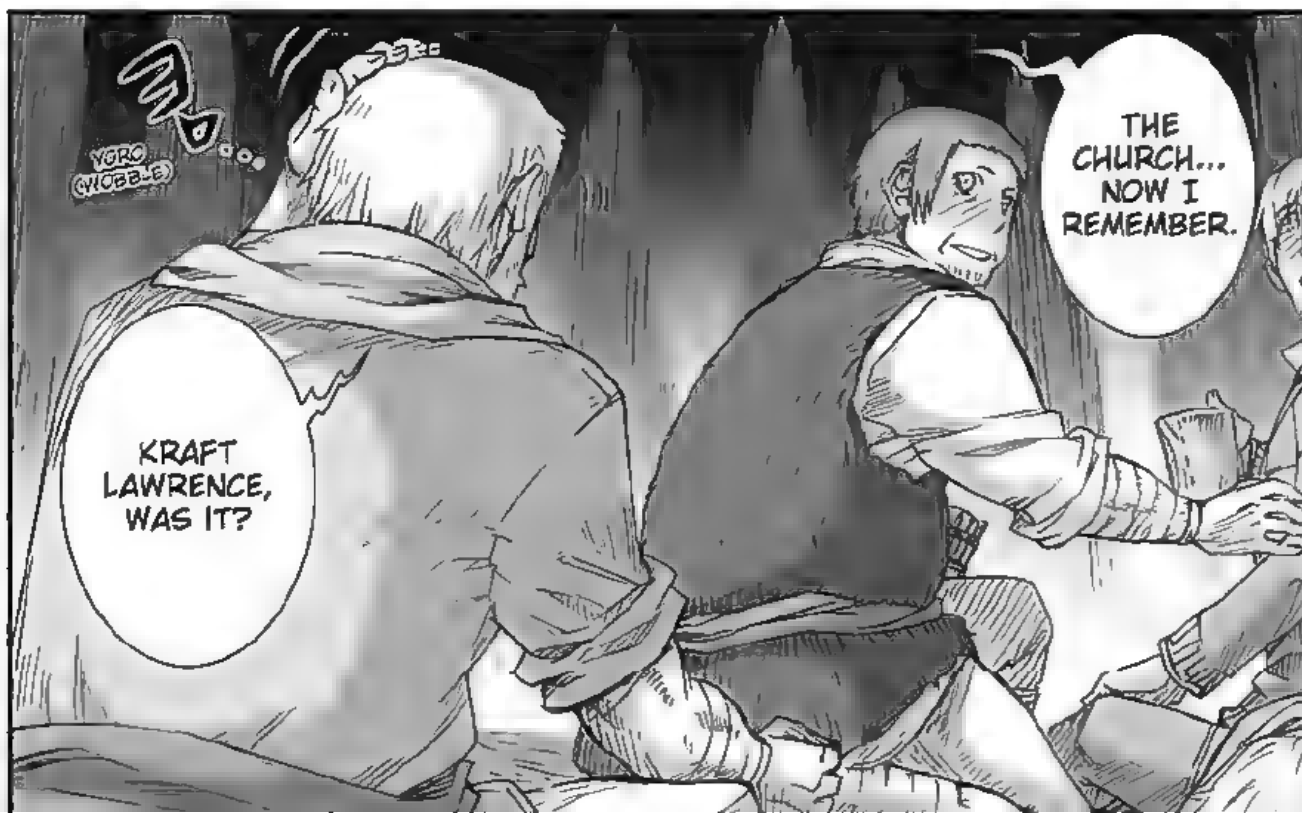


IN-
DEED!

HE SAYS
HE WANTS
TO BE A
CHURCH
ELDER...
IF YOU WANT
HIM TO OWE
YOU A FAVOR,
NOW'S YOUR
CHANCE.

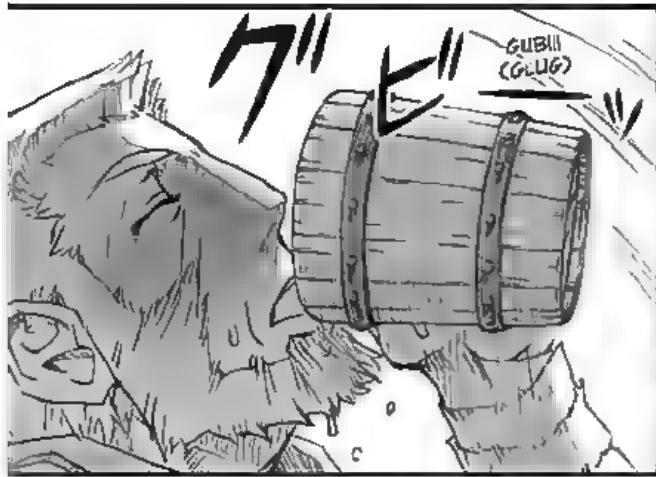


THE
WORLD
IS FILLED
WITH
VEXING
THINGS.



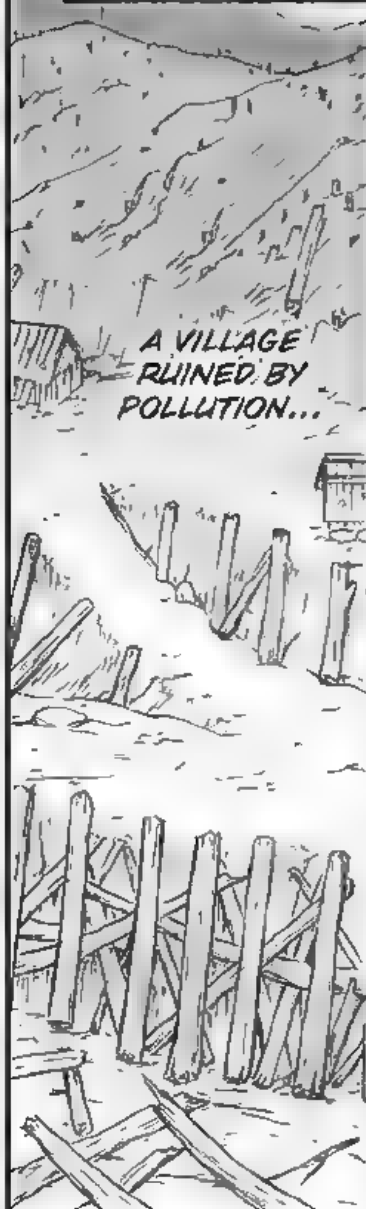
KRAFT
LAWRENCE,
WAS IT?

THE
CHURCH...
NOW I
REMEMBER.





*I'VE SEEN
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT,
JUST ONCE...*









BASHI
(WHAP)

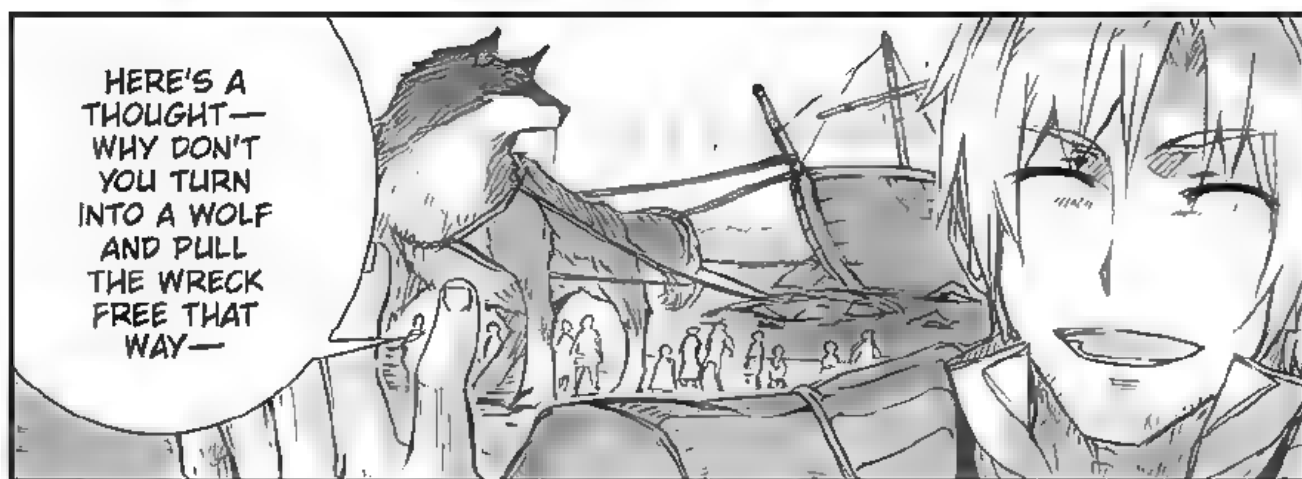


MM?

WE'LL
HAVE TO
FIND AN INN
IN KERUBE,
THEN.



I-
I MAY
HAVE
CAUGHT
COLD. MY
NOSE IS
ITCHY.



HERE'S A
THOUGHT—
WHY DON'T
YOU TURN
INTO A WOLF
AND PULL
THE WRECK
FREE THAT
WAY—



HA
(GASP)



BUT SHE'S SAVED ME MANY TIMES BY DOING JUST THAT...

JOKING ASIDE, HOLO HATES TAKING HER WOLF FORM IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE.



OH, RIGHT ...



HONESTLY.



SHE'S LENT ME HER WISDOM OVER AND OVER... BUT FOR WHOSE SAKE?

YOU LIKE USING YOUR HEAD, RIGHT?



IF OUR
POSITIONS
WERE
REVERSED,
YOU WOULD
SURELY HAVE
BEEN JUST
AS ANGRY.

...SORRY.



ONE CAN
FLATTER A
PIG RIGHT UP
A TREE, BUT
FLATTERING A
MALE JUST
MAKES
HIM LOSE
HIMSELF.



I'VE BEEN
ALONE ON THE
MOUNTAINTOP FOR
A LONG TIME. I'VE
HAD QUITE ENOUGH
OF LOOKING DOWN
ON OTHERS.



.....



OF
COURSE,
YOU DO
NOT JUST
SEEK MY
TEACH-
INGS...

YOU WOULD
TRY TO TAKE
MY REINS. A
RARE FOOL,
INDEED.

...THERE
IS NO
MISTAKING
THAT YOU
WISH TO
LOOK INTO
MY EYES
AS AN
EQUAL.

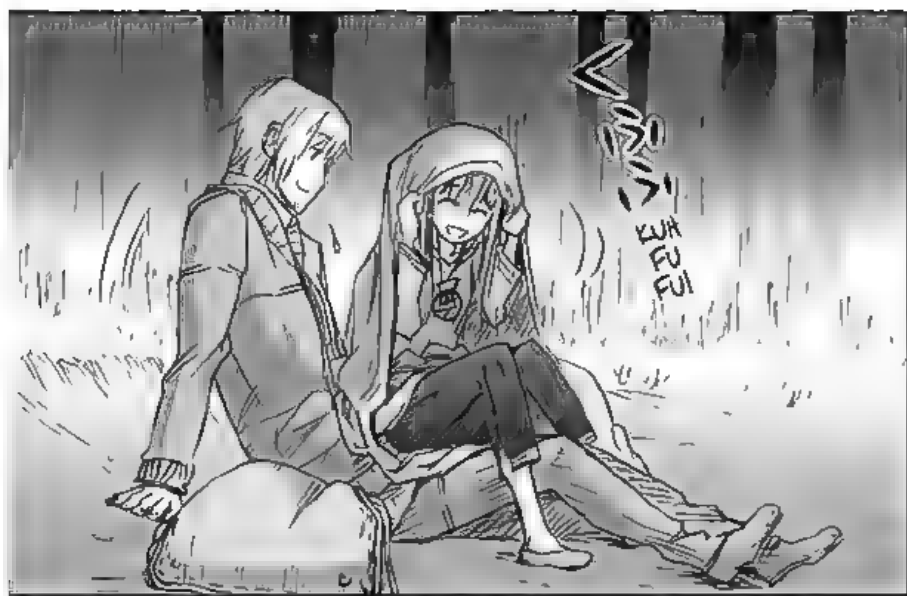
YOU
CAN'T
HOPE TO
SUCCEED,
BUT...

BUT
NOW,
I...

LOOKING
UP AT YOU
THUS, I...

...I
TRULY
ENJOY
IT.

COME NOW,
YOU DID COME
AFTER ME, DID
YOU NOT?





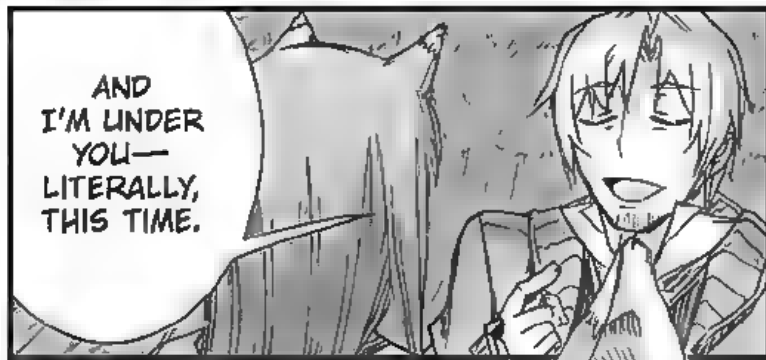


WOULD
YOU GET
OFF ME?
I'M
THIRSTY.

TRYING
TO HOLD
HER REINS
IS JUST
ABOUT
HOPE-
LESS.



HA
(GASP)



AND
I'M UNDER
YOU—
LITERALLY,
THIS TIME.



BEING
ON TOP
DOES
SUIT ME,
I MUST
SAY.



KUH
FU
FU!



I DARE SAY
I'D LIKE
SOME WATER,
MYSELF... AHMM?
WHERE DID MY
ROBE GO?

IT'S
AROUND
YOUR
WAIST.

SFX:
KYORO (GLANCE) KYORO





しん



...BUT
MANY HAD
HEARD OF
THE MOON-
HUNTING
BEAR.

NOBODY
KNEW THE
NAME OF
YOITSU...



JUST
WHO DO
YOU THINK
I AM?

DOES THAT
MAKE YOU
JEALOUS, I
SUPPOSE?



...BUT 'TWOULD
BE LOVELY INDEED
TO HAVE A THICK
BOOK OF TALES
RECORDED ABOUT
ME, OF COURSE.

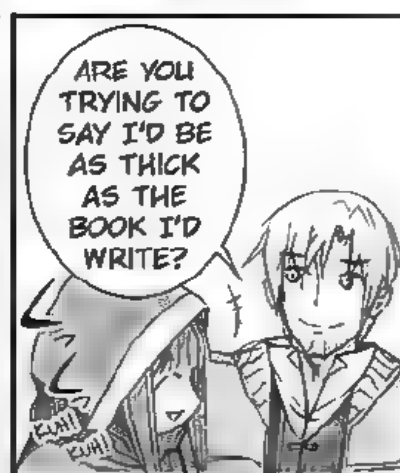
I MAY HAVE
RETIRED
FROM BEING
WORSHIPPED
...

WISO,
(PSST)



I'M
A LATE
BLOOMER,
AFTER
ALL.

I'M
ONLY JUST
GETTING
STARTED!
ALSO...





I WAS
PREPARED
FOR THAT
MUCH.

THERE HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN
FOOLS WHO
DIG INTO THE
MOUNTAINS.

TIME
PASSES,
AND MEN
GROW MORE
NUMEROUS.



WHEN
I SEE YOU
MAKE THAT
FACE, I CAN'T
WORRY ABOUT
IT PROPERLY.

STILL,
KNOW THIS.
'TIS MY
PROBLEM
TO WORRY
OVER.



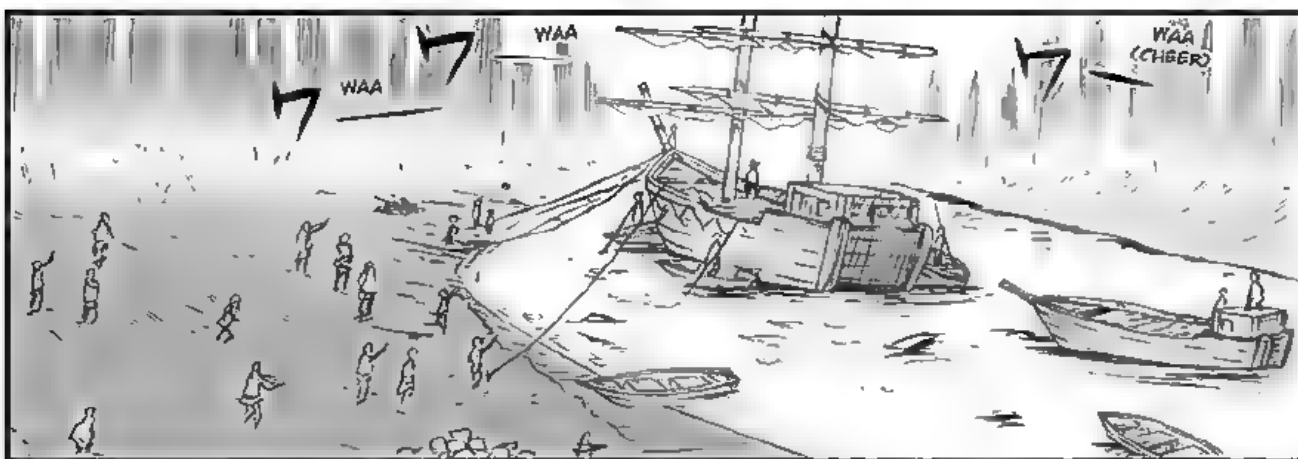
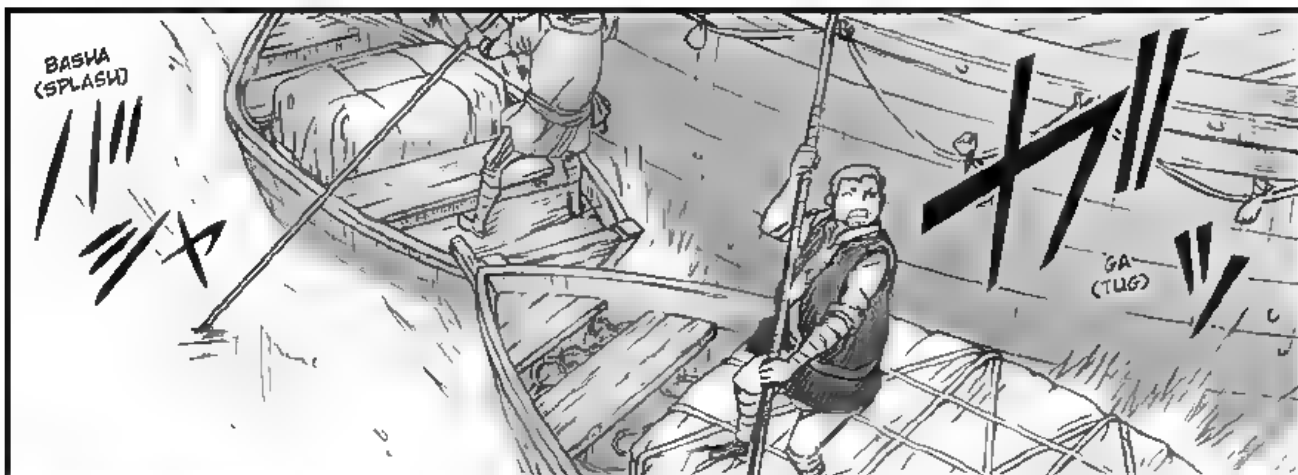
I SUPPOSE
I'VE NO
CHOICE BUT
TO SAY YOU
CAN COUNT
ON ME.

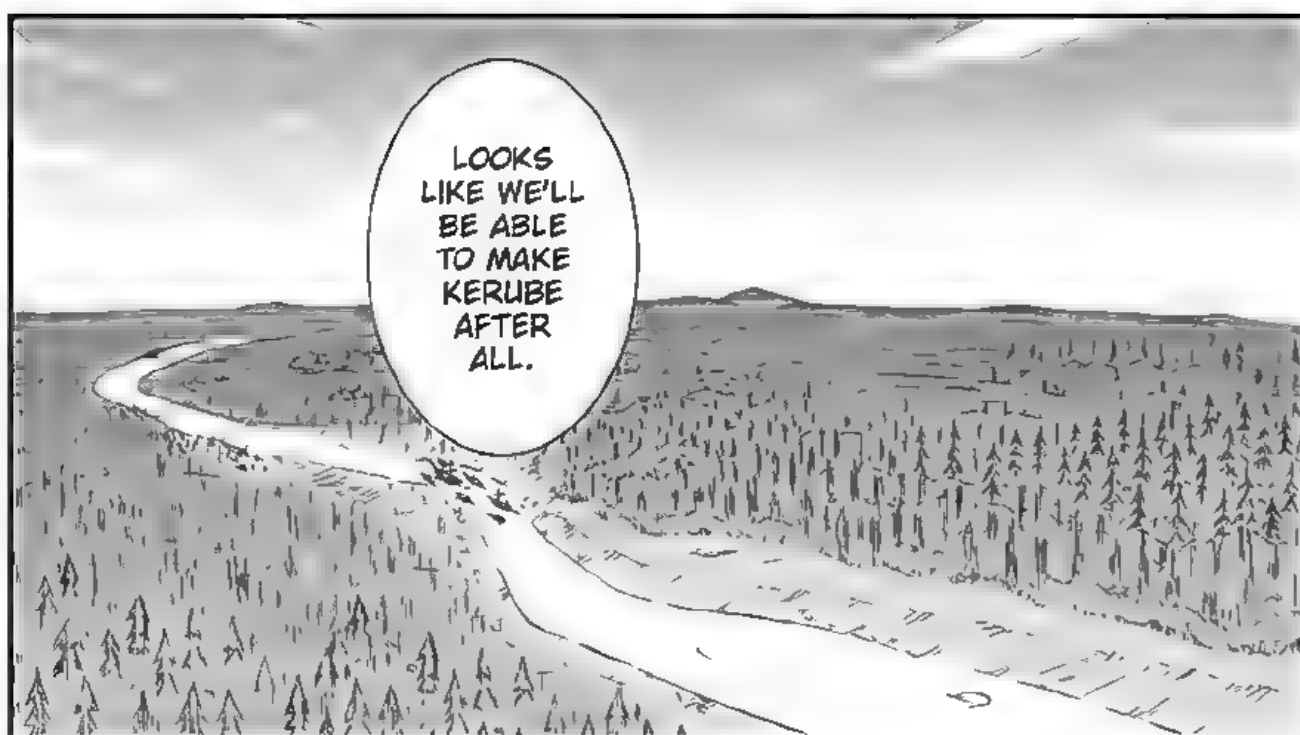


WHEN THE
TIME COMES,
I MAY NEED
TO BORROW
YOUR CHEST
TO CRY
UPON.

THAT'S
ONE
PROMISE
I'LL NEED
FROM YOU.







SPICE & WOLF



SPICE & WOLF

THE PORT OF
KERUBE IS A
MEDIUM-SIZED
TOWN SUPPORTED
BY THE TRADE
BETWEEN SEA
AND RIVER.

GOODS COME
AND GO FROM
THE KINGDOM
OF WINFIEL
ACROSS THE
STRAIT ON INTO
THE INTERIOR OF
THE CONTINENT.



UPON THE RIVER'S
SANDY DELTA IS
BUILT A GRAND
MARKETPLACE—
THIS IS THE
HEART OF
KERUBE'S
COMMERCE.

THE RESIDENTIAL
DISTRICTS LAY TO
THE NORTH AND
SOUTH OF THE
RIVER, AND THE
INHABITANTS OF
EACH FEEL AS
IF THEY LIVE
IN A DIFFERENT
TOWN FROM THE
OTHERS...



SPICE & WOLF







IT CERTAINLY SMELLS MEDICINAL. NOT SOMETHING YOU DRINK, I ASSUME?

PATAN (SHUT)



I THOUGHT I WOULD MAKE SOME MEDICINE TO HELP WITH HOLO'S CONDITION.

WHAT COULD YOU HAVE POSSIBLY GONE SHOPPING FOR AT SUCH AN EARLY HOUR?

GACHA (KASHIKI)



IT'S A SECRET RECIPE PASSED DOWN IN MY VILLAGE. IT'S VERY EFFECTIVE!

IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO...

YOU SIMPLY RUB IT ON, THEN WRAP IT WITH A BANDAGE.



I'LL WAIT OUT IN THE HALLWAY!

NYL (CROAK)



NNGH...



COL'S DONE YOU SUCH A FAVOR, SO SHOW HIM WHERE IT HURTS.

THE SMELL'S STRONG, BUT YOU'LL GET USED TO IT.



I'M RUBBING IT ON NOW...

AYE.

MUSHA

MUSHA MUNCH

THEY WERE FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR A BOOK ON THE SUBJECT.

YES, ACCORDING TO RAGUSA'S FRIEND...

GUSH (SNIFF)

WAS IT THE JEAN COMPANY...? THAT WAS TRYING TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE MINES IN LESKO ...?



WE'RE...
ON THE
NORTH
SIDE,
YES?



SIMPLY
GOING
AROUND ASKING
QUESTIONS
WITH NO GOODS
IN HAND MAKES
ME RATHER
SUSPICIOUS,
AFTER
ALL.

I PLAN
TO HEAD OVER
TO A TRADING
GUILD HOUSE ON
THE SOUTH SIDE
AND ASK FOR
A LETTER OF
INTRODUCTION.



THIS
PLACE IS A
NEW-KEPT
SECRET.
THIS IS MY
THIRD TIME.

YOU'VE
NO COM-
PLAINTS
WITH THE
INN BED,
HAVE
YOU?



RIGHT,
ALL
DONE.

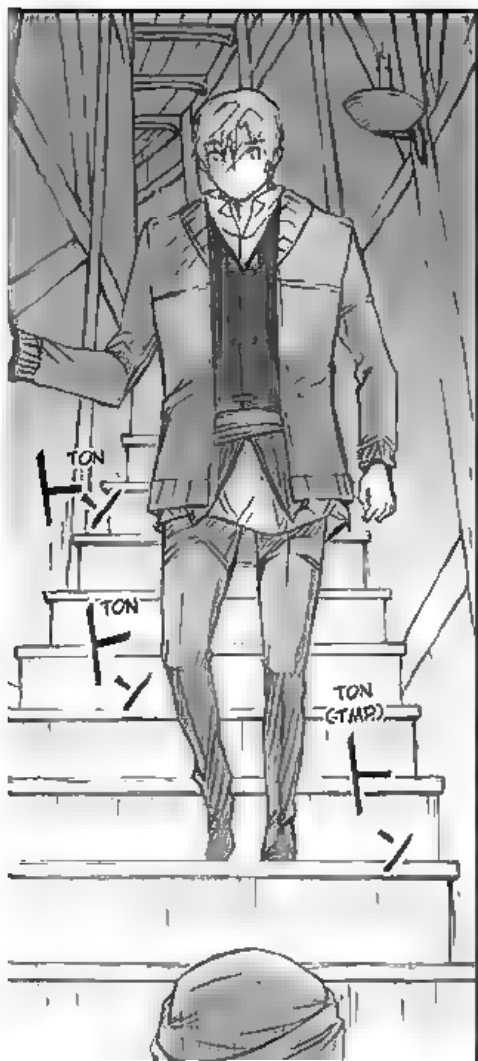
THE
NORTH'S
QUITE A BIT
CHEAPER.
THIS SORT
OF THING
HAPPENS
QUITE OFTEN
IN TOWNS
DIVIDED BY
A RIVER.

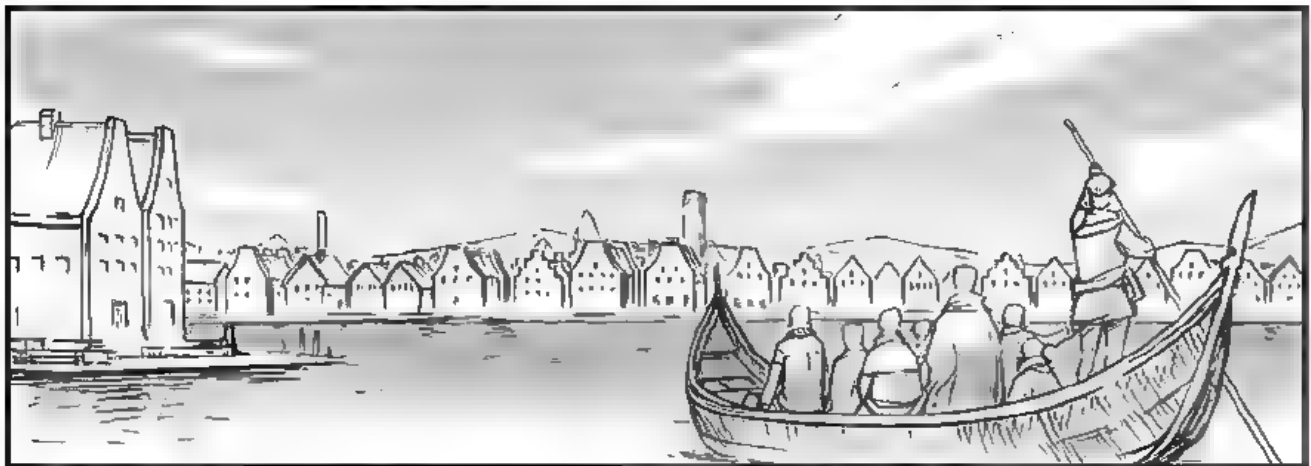
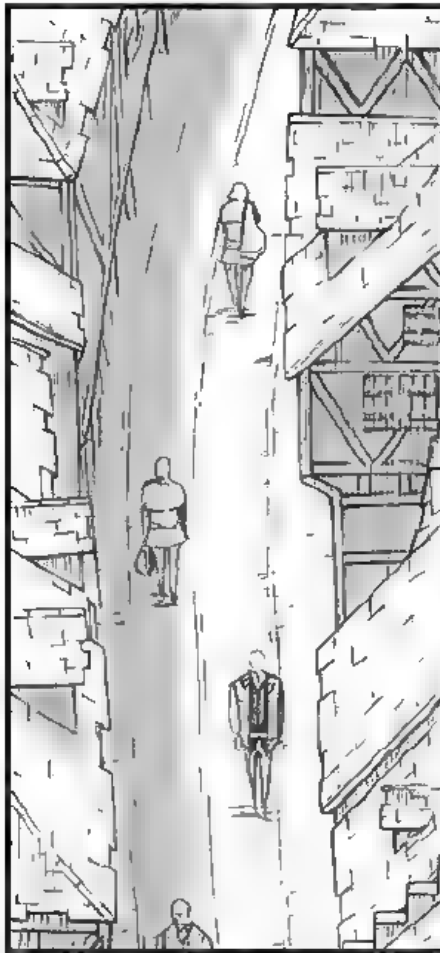
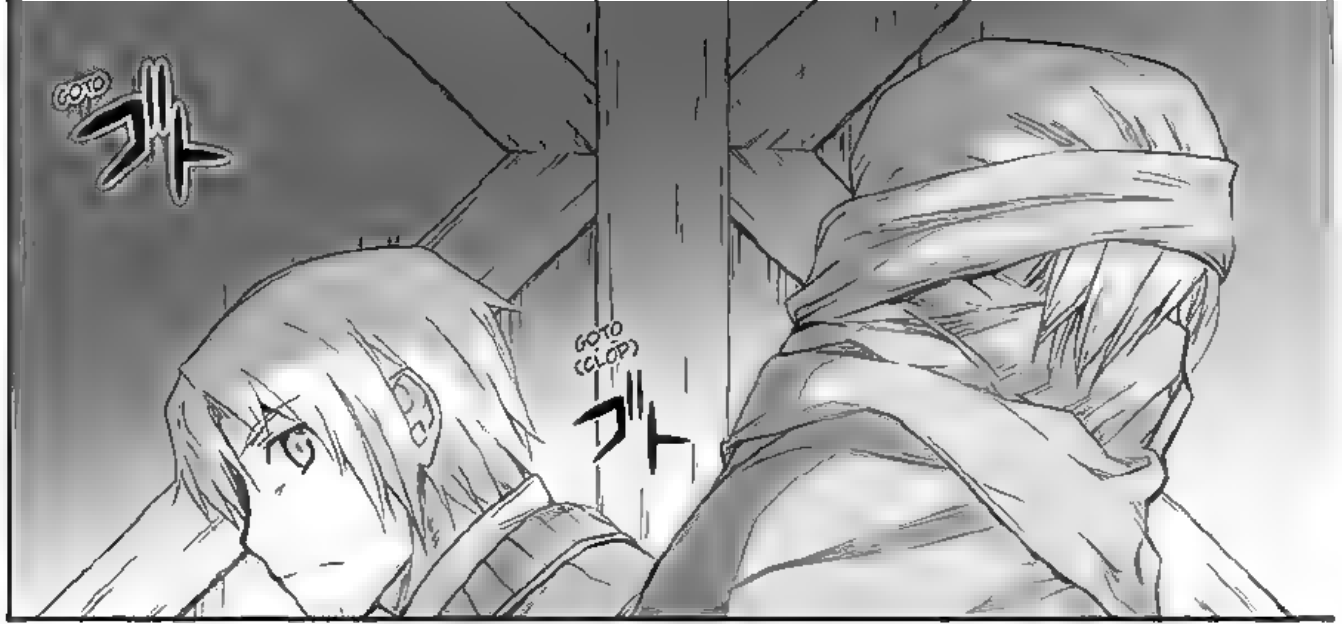


THE OWNER
IS A FORMER
CRAFTSMAN.
HE'S A GOOD
PERSON.

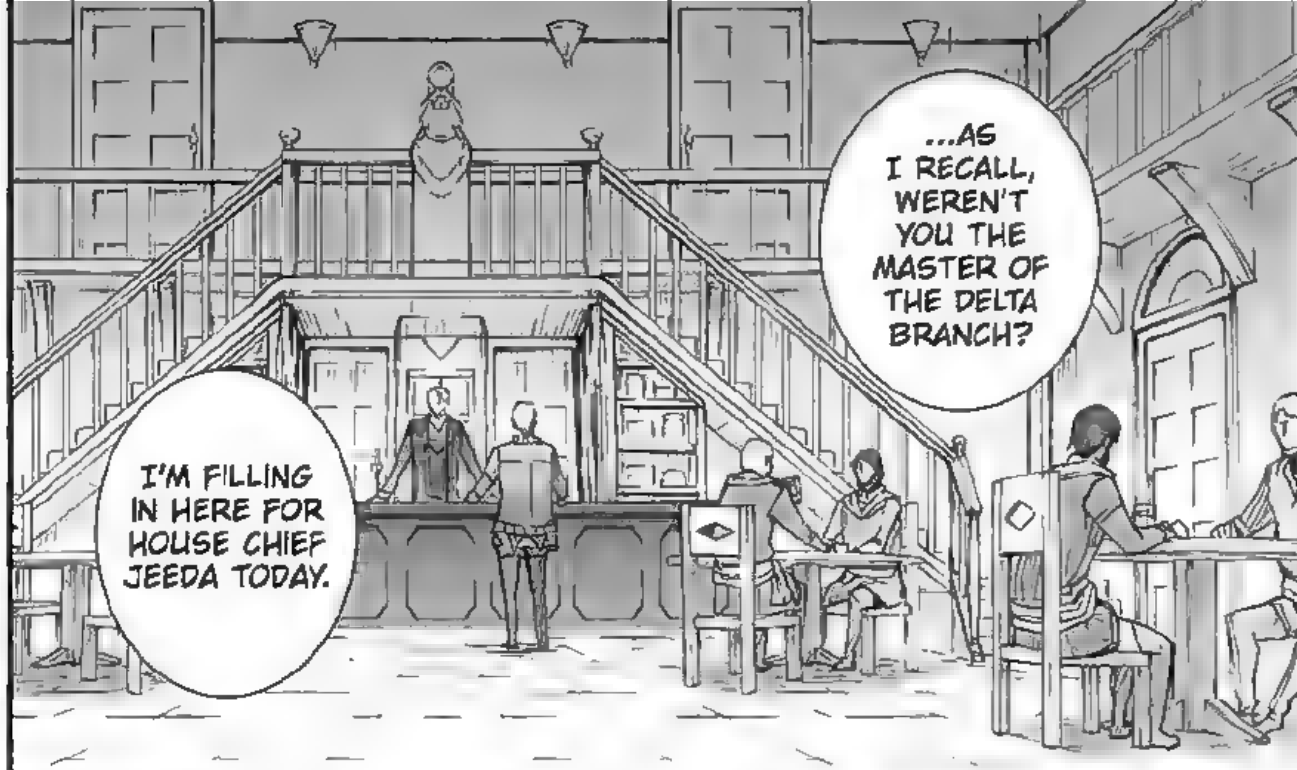


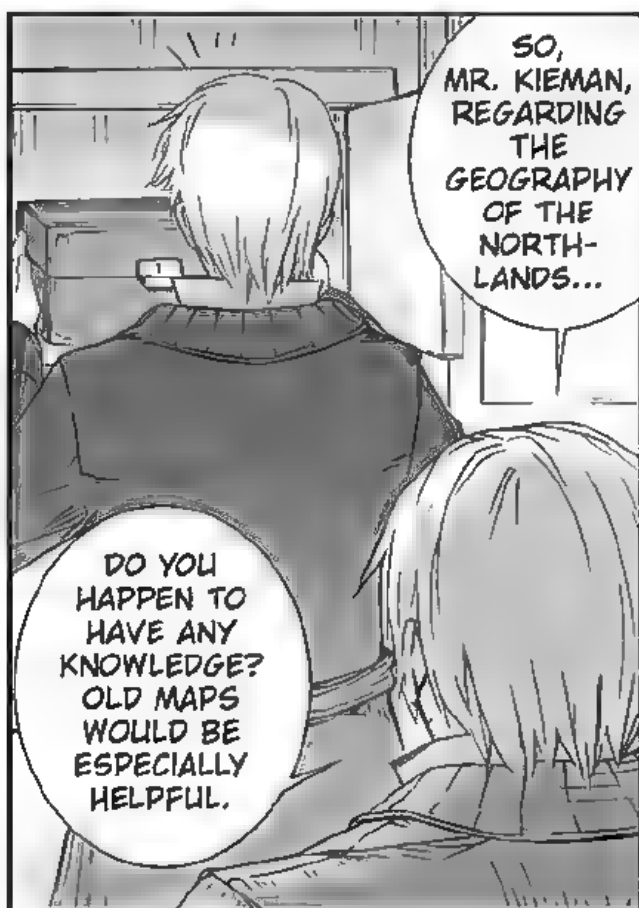
AYE,
FROM THE
OUTSIDE IT
LOOKS LIKE
A CRAFTS-
MAN'S
SHOP.



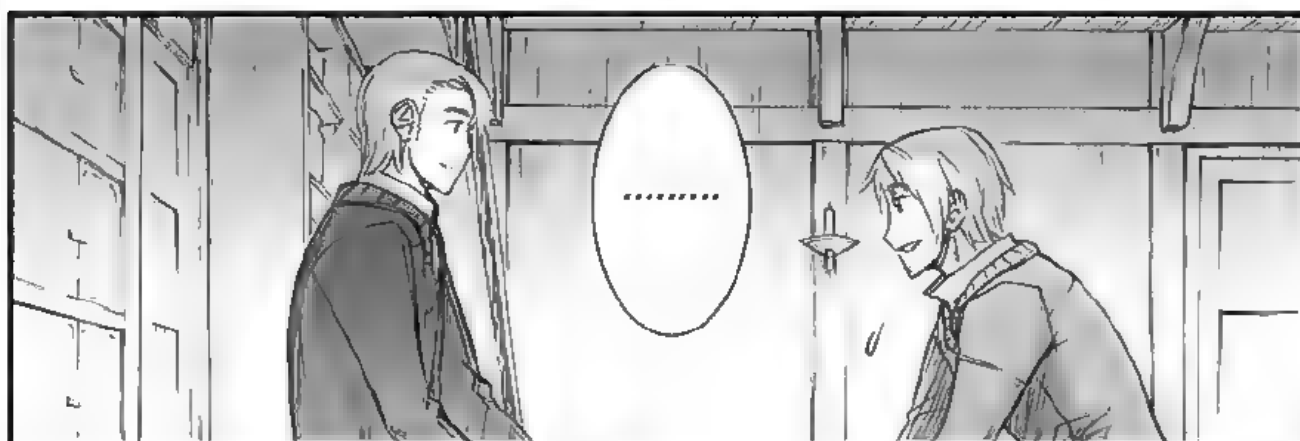














THAT'S
GOOD

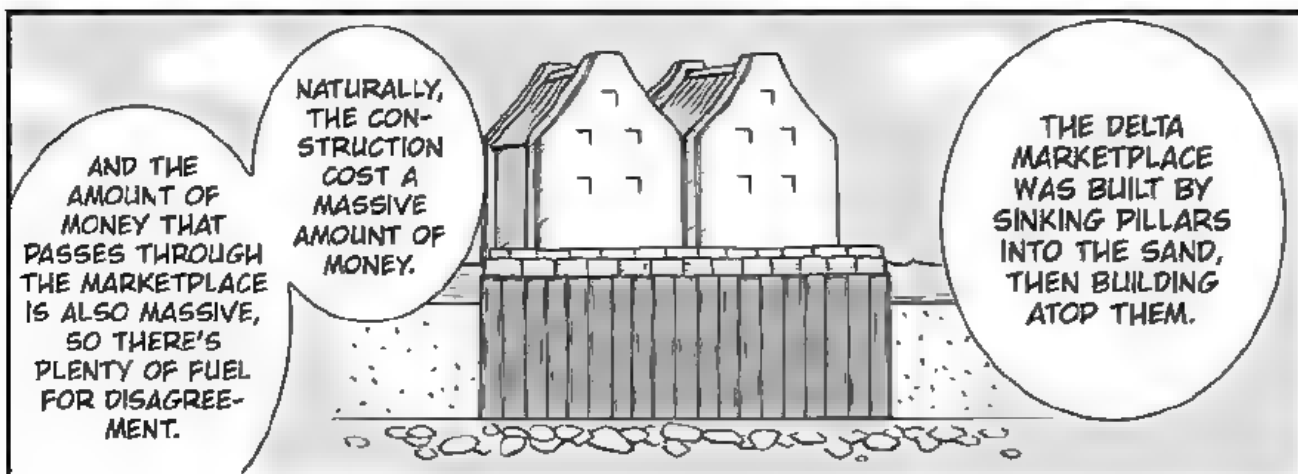
I FELT
LIKE I WOULD
DIE AT FIRST,
BUT TO THINK
I'D FEEL THIS
MUCH BETTER
ONLY HALF
A DAY
LATER!

MY
THANKS
TO YOU,
COL.

N-NOT
AT ALL.

SHALL
WE GO
EAT?

GACHA,
GACHOKO





I'VE BEEN TO THE SOUTH SIDE, ONCE...



MM...



B- BUT THE PEOPLE ON THIS SIDE ARE KINDER.

COMPARED WITH THE NORTH, THE BUILDINGS ARE MUCH GRANDER.



AND THE ROWEN TRADE GUILD, BEING CONNECTED TO COMMERCE ON THE SOUTH SIDE...

...DOESN'T WANT THEM TO DO ANYTHING UNNECESSARY.



ANYWAY, THE JEAN COMPANY SEEMS TO HAVE SOME CONNECTIONS WITH IMPORTANT PEOPLE ON THE NORTH SIDE.



THE HARSHER THE PLACE, THE KINDER THE PEOPLE.

YES.



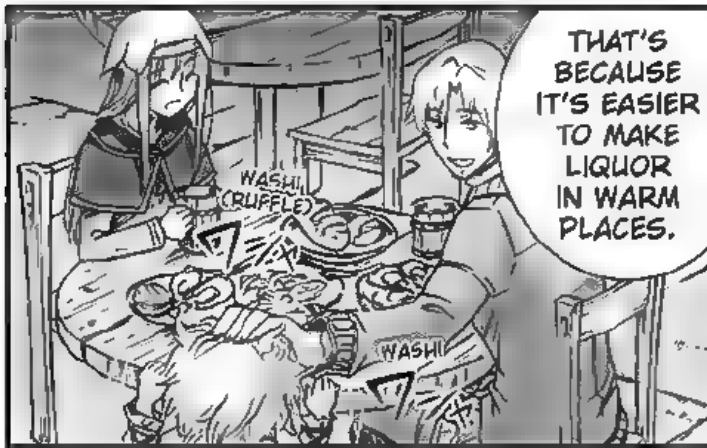
PEOPLE
IN THE
SOUTH...
ARE
ALWAYS
CHEERFUL.



UM...



AH WELL,
EVEN IF
THE GUILD'S
NO HELP,
I'LL WORK
SOMETHING
OUT ON MY
OWN.



THAT'S
BECAUSE
IT'S EASIER
TO MAKE
LIQUOR
IN WARM
PLACES.



TRYING
TO BE
CONSIDERATE,
EH?



OH,
I SEE.



WOMAN?



I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOUR WINE-LOOSENED TONGUE BLABBING TO THE WOMAN STAYING ON OUR FLOOR.



I THINK YOU'D BEST GO EASY ON THE WINE.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING.



SHE HAD A WOMAN'S FOOT-STEPS.

MY NOSE WAS WORTHLESS THANKS TO THE SALVE, BUT MY EARS WERE STILL WELL.



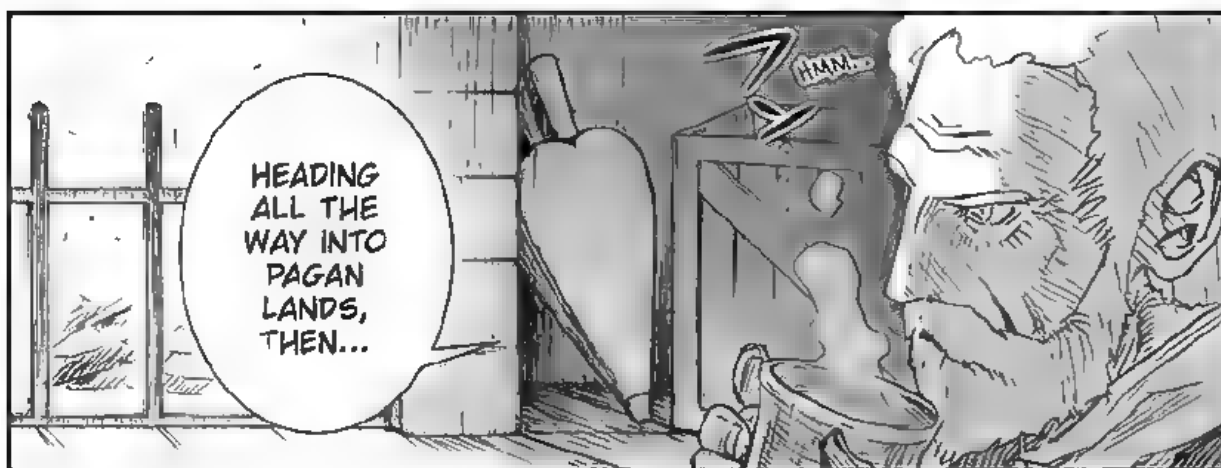
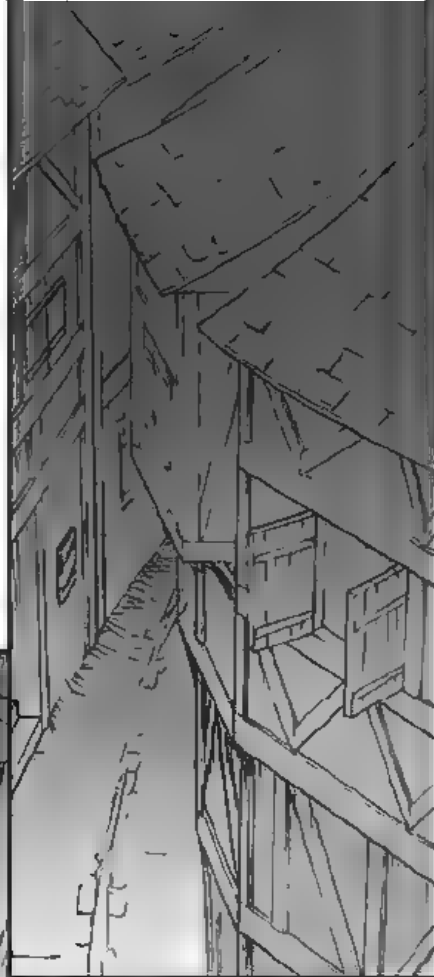
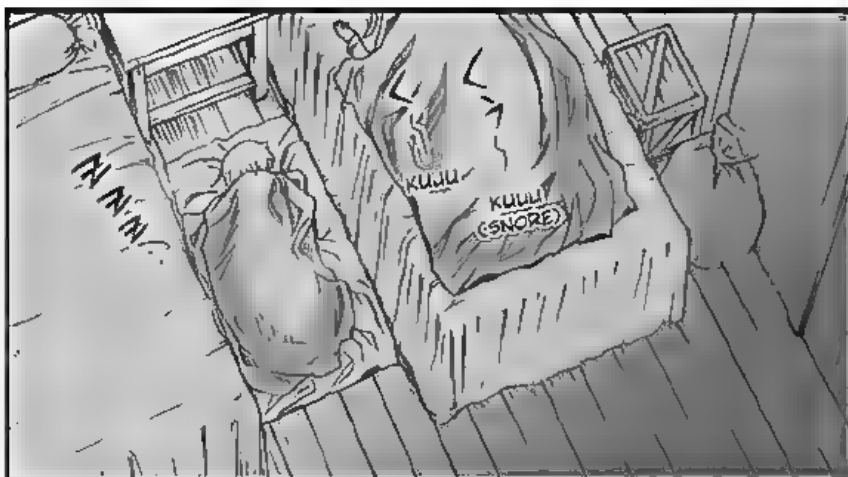
I PASSED SOMEONE THIS MORNING, BUT... THAT WAS A WOMAN?



I SEE NOW I'VE NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOU AT ALL!



BUT YOU REALLY DIDN'T NOTICE?





THEN WHY
EARN MONEY
AT ALL?



THOUGH
UPON DEATH
WE MUST CAST
THOSE PURSES
ASIDE.



BUT
THAT'S
WHAT
MER-
CHANTS
DO.

WE'LL GO
ANYWHERE
TO FILL
OUR COIN
PURSES.



BECAUSE
MONEY IS
UNSIGHTLY
BEFORE
THE GODS.



BUT YOU
DON'T PUT
THAT SAME
QUESTION TO
SOMEONE WHO'S
CLEANING A
ROOM.



IF
YOU'RE
JUST
GOING TO
THROW IT
AWAY...

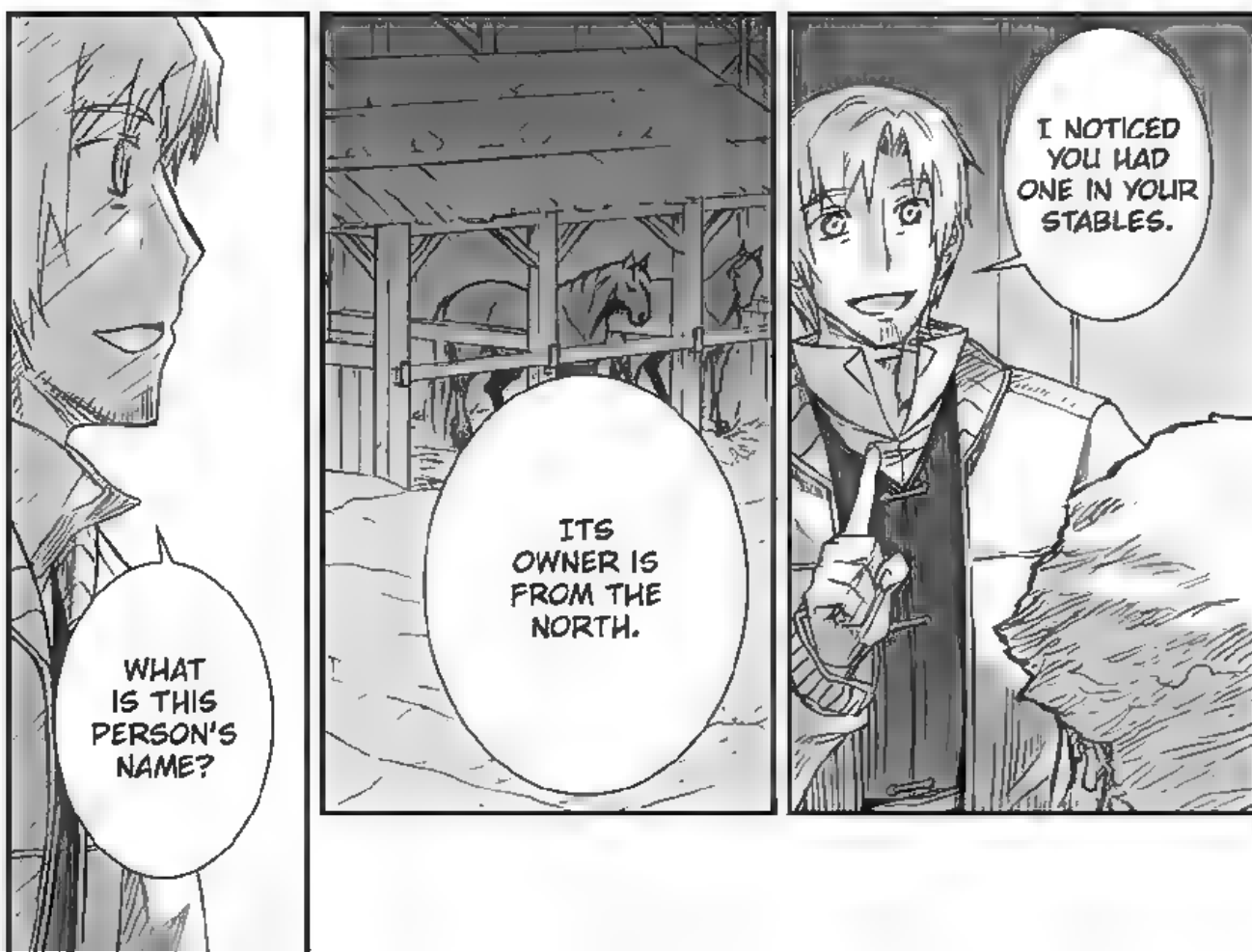
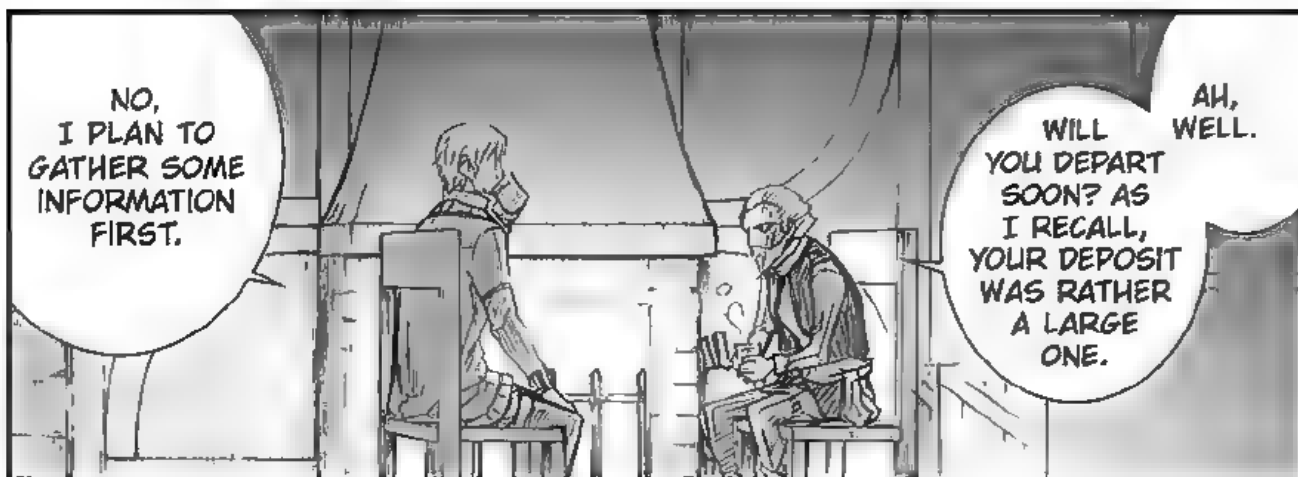


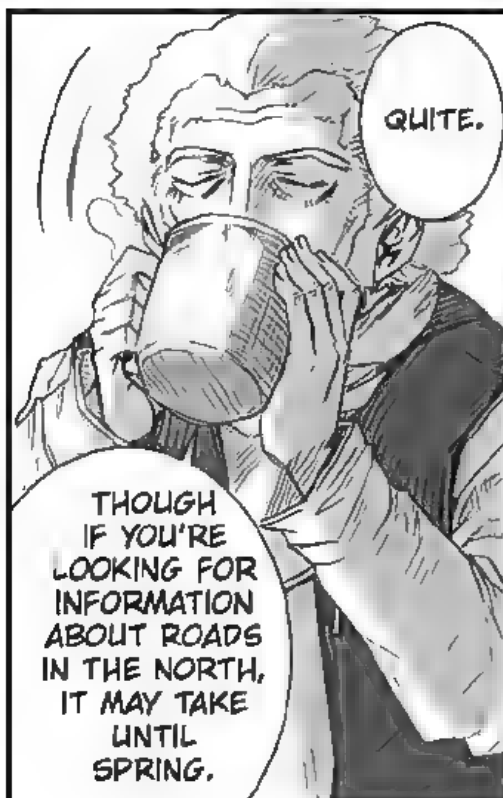
THERE WAS
A MERCHANT
LONG AGO
WHO ONCE
PRESENTED
THE GODS
WITH SUCH
IRONY.

HMPH.



.....







DO YOU
MEAN THE
TROUBLE
AROUND
THE DELTA
COULD
AFFECT
THINGS?



I IMAGINE
IT'S IN OUR
NATURE TO
RESIST THOSE
CURRENTS.



SO
NATURALLY
THOSE
CURRENTS
AFFECT
THE TOWNS
WHERE
PEOPLE
GATHER.

PEOPLE'S
LIVES HAVE
CURRENTS.



THIS
IS YOUR
THIRD TIME
AT THE INN,
YES? WHAT'S
YOUR NAME?



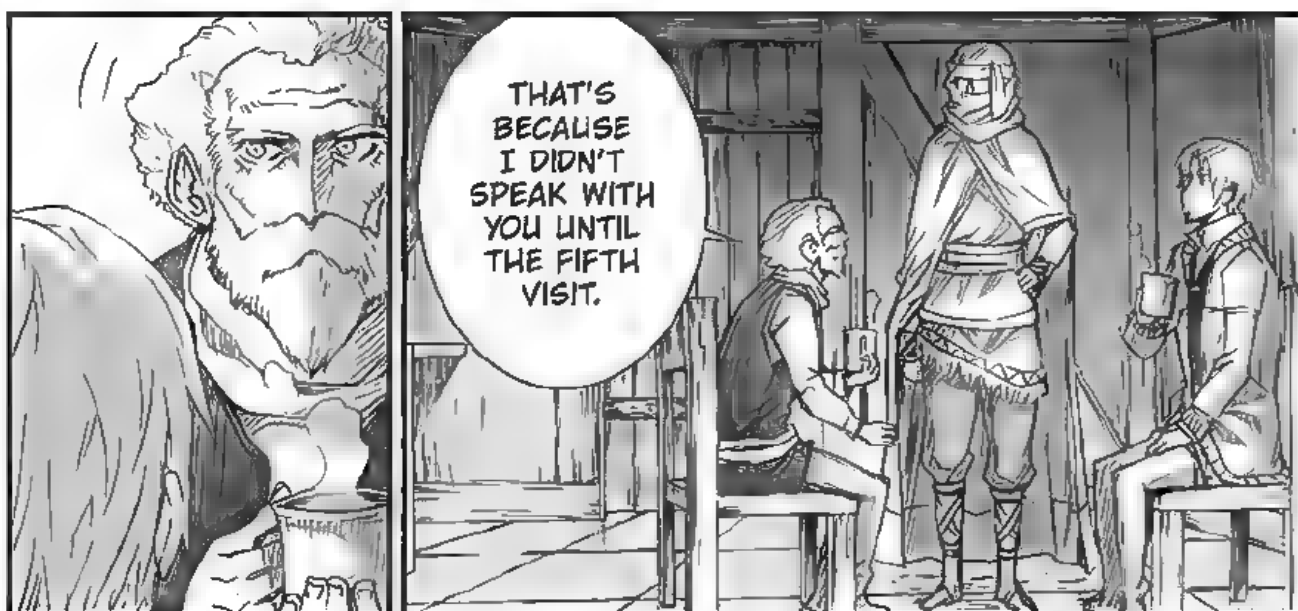
IT'S
BEEN
PLEASANT
TALKING
WITH
YOU.

HEH-HEH.
IT'S HARD
TO ARGUE
WITH THAT.



JUST LIKE
HOW WE SEEK
FORGIVENESS
AFTER MAKING
A MISTAKE.







PERHAPS.

ARE
YOU AS
SOCIAL
AS I AM,
THEN?



AND IT'S
SO RARE
THAT YOU
OPEN THAT
MOUTH OF
YOURS.



...INDEED.



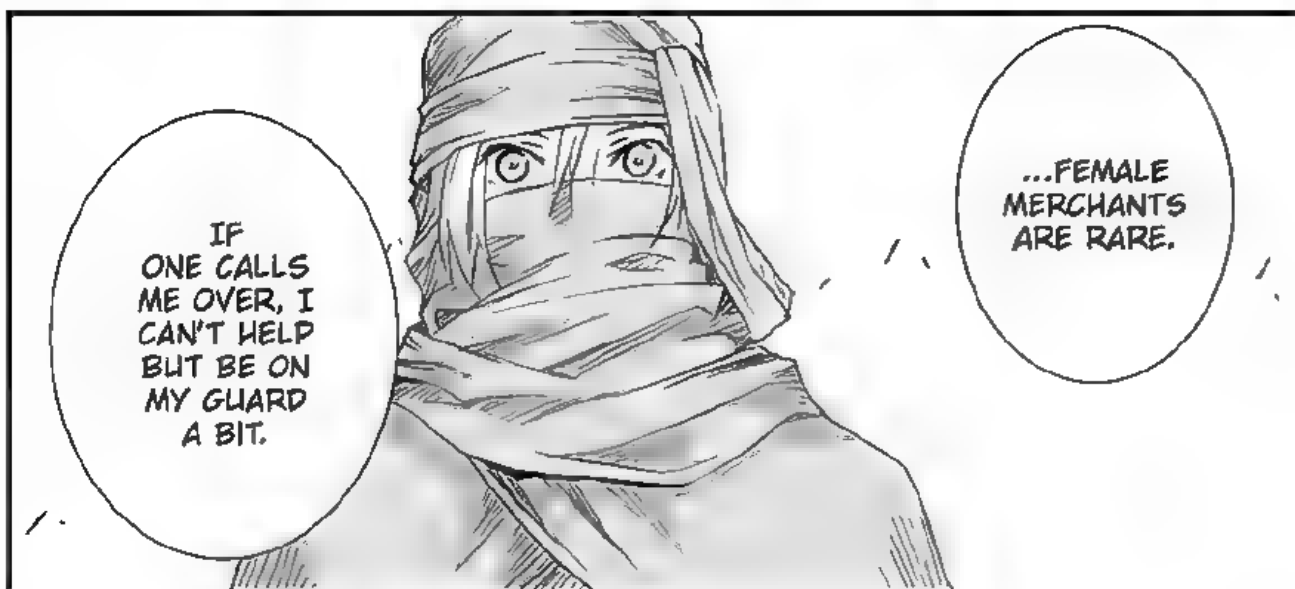
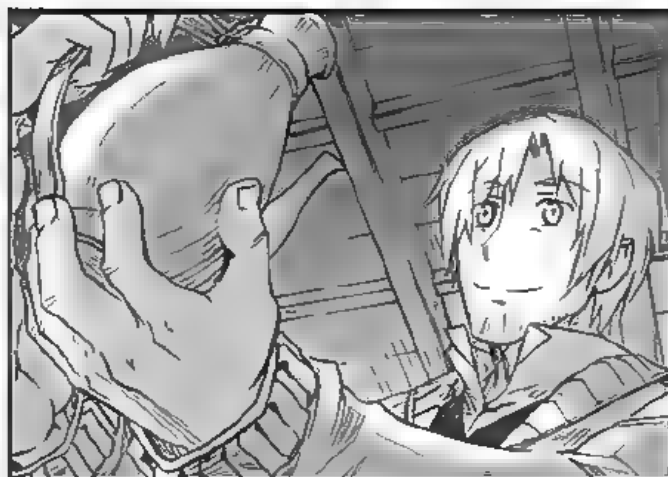
WE
SHOULD TALK.
YOU WANTED TO
HEAR OF THE
JEAN COMPANY,
YES?



YOU,
THERE.

YES?









KRAFT
LAWRENCE.

To be Continued...

Special Thanks!!
MR. OKAMOTO ITTOKUHEI, MR. TENTSU TDI,
MR. YAKKUN, MR. N-TA, MR. YUU, MR. A.



"FLEUR"
ISN'T MUCH
BY WAY OF
INTIMIDATION,
YOU SEE.



NAME'S
FLEUR
BOLAN.

BUT IN
BUSINESS,
I GO BY
EVE
BOLAN.

CONGRATULATIONS ON VOLUME 8! The world of Koume-sensei's art is so vivid, I felt like I could smell the dust! Can't wait to see what happens next!

支倉凍砂
ISUNA HASEKURA

SPICE & WOLF



CONGRATULATIONS
ON the release of Volume
8! Now we're into episodes
that weren't in the anime,
so being able to read Koume-
sensei's version is simply too
rewarding to properly
express. I just hope he
lets Elsa be happy...

折戸
Jyuu Ayakura



SPICE & WOLF 8

ISUNA HASEKURA

KEITO KOUME

CHARACTER DESIGN:

JYUU AYAKURA

TRANSLATION: PAUL STARR

LETTERING: TERRI DELGADO

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OOKAMI TO KOUSHINRYOU Vol. 8

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